

KAPPA ALPHA THETA

VOLUME XXIII

NUMBER 3

PUBLISHED BY
KAPPA ALPHA THETA FRATERNITY
AT ANN ARBOR, MICH.

KAPPA ALPHA THETA

Published by the Fraternity
Edited by Charlotte H. Walker

NOVEMBER JANUARY MARCH MAY

Printed by The Ann Arbor Press, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Address everything intended for publication and all business communication to Charlotte H. Walker, 1129 Washtenaw Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

All material intended for publication must reach the Editor before October 5, December 5, February 5, April 5.

**TERMS: \$1.00 per Year, payable in advance;
25 cents Single Copy; Sample Copy Free.**

Kappa Alpha Theta will be sent to all subscribers until ordered discontinued, and arrearages paid as required by law.

Entered as second class mail matter at Ann Arbor, Michigan.

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THE COLUMNS, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

KAPPA ALPHA THETA

VOL. XXIII

MARCH, 1909

No. 3

INSTALLATION OF ALPHA MU

As the thoughts of Kappa Alpha Theta turned toward the installation of Alpha Mu chapter on February 12, we who were at Columbia thought of our whole fraternity, wishing that you were all sharing the happiness and inspiration which the installation brought.

Thursday and Friday were busy days of preparation. There were ten enthusiastic workers: Edna Mertz, Iota, from Sedalia, Missouri; Clara Nipher, Winono Petrine, Patty Clayton and Elizabeth Evans, active members of Alpha Iota; Mary Clark, Kappa, from St. Joseph, Missouri; Alice Wilhelmi and Hazel Allison, from the active Kappa chapter, and Miss Hall and myself. Miss Hall's management of the preliminary arrangements had been most complete, and with the chapter house at our disposal, all was in readiness by five o'clock on Friday afternoon, when the initiates were allowed to return, and the installation was held.

Then the banquet! As we started to the carriages, an Alpha Mu enthusiast called, "Let the *real* Thetas go first!" What joy it was to go to the Hotel Gordon, realizing that we were *all* real Thetas—thirty-five wonderfully happy Thetas. The banquet room was a beautiful sight. The table was decorated with great masses of jonquils, with southern smilax, and with yellow and black candle-shades, and on each toast program was painted a black and gold ship. The ship was called "Alpha Mu," and it held high the black and gold flag of Kappa Alpha Theta. Miss Hall

made a most gracious and charming toastmistress, introducing Christine Dick, who told of "The Crew," Alice Wilhelmi, whose talk was on the "Sailing," Minnie Lee Noe, with "The Kite and the Columns," Clara Nipher, who told of the beginning of Alpha Iota, as "Another Launching," Ellen Koken, who gave "Memories of Delta Psi," and Anna Harrison, who spoke of "The Flag Under Which We Sail." There were songs, of course, and letters and telegrams of greeting. The whole scene inspired Convention enthusiasm, and everyone who was at Alpha Mu's banquet table hopes to share the coming Convention.

Alpha Mu's reception into the Greek world was delightful. Among the charming courtesies shown was the reception by the Missouri University chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma, Saturday morning. Saturday afternoon, Alpha Mu entertained the university faculty, the fraternity men and women, and Columbia friends.

In the evening came the first chapter meeting. Sunday and Monday were delightfully informal days, with long Theta talks before the open fire in the living room of the chapter house. Monday night there was another chapter meeting, with added determination on the part of all to know the fraternity intimately.

There was one sad touch among the happy hours, when Fannie Baker, of Carthage, Missouri, received the news of the serious illness of her mother. She started home with the sympathy and cheering wishes of all, and she sent back a hopeful report to the chapter.

Alpha Mu is thoroughly launched, happy and proud to have the long-desired place on Kappa Alpha Theta's chapter roll, eager to prove worthy of the trust the fraternity has shown, and already typically Theta in policy and ideals.

ANNA HARRISON.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

The University of Missouri was established on Feb. 11, 1839, and its courses of instruction were begun on April 14, 1841. Since that time it has been in continuous operation except for a few months during the Civil War, when its buildings and grounds were occupied by troops.

On January 9, 1892, the main building of the university was destroyed by fire, leaving the old columns, which now stand at the center of the quadrangle, surrounded by the principal university buildings. This disaster brought the state actively to the support of the university, and marked the beginning of a very rapid growth.

The university at present comprises the following departments::

I. Academic Department—A College of Liberal Arts was established in 1839 and now grants the degrees of A.B., A.M., and Ph.D.

II. Teacher's College—Established in 1867 as a Normal Department, and reorganized in 1904 with full university courses. It grants degrees of B.S., A.M., and Ph.D.

III. College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts—Comprising the School of Agriculture, established in 1870, and the Agricultural Experiment Station, established in 1888. It grants the degrees of B.S. and M.S. The Home Economics Department, established in 1907, grants the degree of B.S. in Home Economics. The legislature has appropriated \$100,000 for a new agricultural building, which is being erected on the Horticultural grounds.

IV. Missouri School of Mines—Established in 1870 and located at Rolla, Missouri.

V. Department of Law—Established in 1872, grants degree of LL.B.

VI. Department of Medicine—Established in 1873, grants degree of M.D.

VII. School of Engineering—Established in 1877, grants degrees of B.S., C.E., E.E., M.E., and Ch.E.

VIII. Missouri State Military School—Established in 1890.

All departments of the university, excepting the School of Mines, are located at Columbia, a city of about 8,000 inhabitants, situated midway between St. Louis and Kansas City, and reached by the Wabash, and the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railways.

The buildings, grounds, books and other equipment are valued at about \$2,000,000. The campus of about thirty-two acres contains the following buildings:

Academic Hall, Zoology and Geology, Chemistry, Law, Observatory, Agriculture, Medicine, Parker Hospital, Engineering Hall, Engineering Laboratory, Mechanic Arts, Power House, President's House, and two dormitories for men—Benton and Lathrop Halls.

The Horticultural Grounds of about thirty acres, one block east of the campus, contain the Horticultural Building, the new Agricultural Building, green houses, and Read Hall, the dormitory for women.

The gymnasium for men and Rollins athletic field are one block south of the campus.

The State Farm of about 600 acres contains the Dairy, Stock-Judging and Farm Machinery buildings, cattle and sheep barns, and other farm buildings.

At Columbia, twenty-two buildings are devoted to university purposes, not including farm buildings or houses used by the training school of the Teacher's College.

The total income of the university for the years 1905 and 1906 was about \$490,000 per year. For 1904 it was about \$430,000.

The enrollment for 1907-8 was: 1,807 men, 500 women; for 1908—, 2,224 men, 555 women, making a total enrollment so far of 2,779 students. This does not include about 400 students registered in the summer session.

In the Academic Department and Teacher's College and in the summer session (which includes only these departments), the number of women is greater than the number of men, the preponderance of men in the university being due to the professional schools.

Missouri University was admitted to the Association of Collegiate Alumnae in December, 1906.

EFALE BROWN.

DELTA PSI

The local sorority of Delta Psi was established February 10, 1906, with six girls, whose aim was to establish at the University of Missouri a chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta. A badge, a gold scroll with the Greek letters Delta Psi in black on it, was adopted. The new members added during the half year were full of fraternity spirit and were participants in all phases of college activity.

The following September a chapter house was rented and partly furnished by Delta Psi. Not deeming it advisable to match their strength against that of the national sororities represented at the University of Missouri, Delta Psi rushed in a quiet way and succeeded in adding three strong girls to its ranks. Delta Psi in her first year of life was recognized as a local society whose standing compared favorably with that of the two national women's fraternities established at the university.

The need of a larger house was felt, and the opening of the next school year found Delta Psi in the house Alpha Mu still occupies, and in which the chapter now owns all the furniture. Once fully in the race, the girls succeeded in maintaining the high standing established for Delta Psi, and each girl worked loyally to make her society worthy of the name, Kappa Alpha Theta.

EFALE BROWN.

A SCHOLARSHIP BASIS FOR FRATERNITY MEMBERSHIP

Two articles have come to us recently upon this subject, written independently of each other and without solicitation. The first presents the subject from the viewpoint of an alumna, the second from that of an undergraduate. We are glad to present them simultaneously.—Editor.

Of late several instances have come to my notice of a definite standard of scholarship requisite for admission into college societies. These cases which I have observed have, it is true, been those of local societies alone, chiefly the more important ones in the larger eastern colleges for men and

women. The idea, however, is such a good one that one wonders whether some like arrangement could not be made in regard to national fraternities.

The standard in question is not a particularly high one, attainable only by the "grind" or the exceptionally brilliant student. It is merely a good average standing, which, with a little care, may be reached by all. For example, in one college no student is eligible for membership in any society until all her entrance conditions shall have been removed.

The usual objections against any ruling by the national fraternity regarding a matter of this kind are: 1. That by such action some strong girls might be lost to the fraternity. Were such girls admitted, in spite of low standing, they might be encouraged to attain higher standing after admission, by the example and help of their fraternity sisters. 2. The difficulty of applying any invariable rule to the various conditions prevailing in different colleges.

In regard to the first objection, we may doubt whether it is quite fair to require of a girl, after admission to a fraternity, what we did not consider of sufficient importance to insist upon before. Apart from this, however, it may be broadly said that the average freshman who enters college heavily conditioned has not formed the habit of careful study. Against the unsystematic habits of a lifetime the best endeavors of a number of older girls, who have their own pursuits and duties to keep them from any very active supervision, and who after all have no real authority, cannot prevail. If, on the contrary, it be generally known that not to fulfill certain conditions means invariable exclusion from any society, the freshman will, for her own sake, strive to fulfill these conditions, and the over-rushing, the lack of study, and the frequent self-conceit which are now too often met with in the freshman class, will be avoided.

In regard to the second objection, an invariable rule would, of course, be impracticable. One in regard to entrance conditions, perhaps, might not be so. There is also the question of the attitude of other societies to consider, which might in some cases put Kappa Alpha Theta for a

time at a disadvantage. All these points should be considered in detail before any action be taken, but, in the main, the scholarship qualification is a good one, and is being gradually adopted among the local societies, at least, in many of the large colleges. Would this not be a profitable subject for consideration at the next Pan-Hellenic Conference?

AMELIA LEAVITT HILL, Gamma Alumnæ.

The proposal of the National Pan-Hellenic Conference that local Pan-Hellenic associations look into the expediency of placing fraternity membership on a scholarship basis has awakened much interest at Barnard. A Pan-Hellenic committee, of which the writer happens to be chairman, has been appointed to look into the matter among other measures for the betterment of the fraternity side of college life. For this reason, I would be glad to see some discussion of the matter in the *Journal*. Good scholarship should be one of the main tenets of fraternity life. The real question seems to be, whether or not we can judge of true scholarship on the basis of marks received in the freshman year. Many excellent students, partly through lack of preparatory training, fail at first and later attain high standing. It is also true that the influence of fraternity life for women aids usually, rather than detracts from, improvement in scholarship. Is it, then, better to keep a girl on the outside of a fraternity until she has proven her scholastic ability or to take her in, and, by close contact and supervision, help her in proving it?

On the surface it would seem that a scholarship basis for membership would remove a great objection raised against the fraternity system on the part of faculty, parents, and outsiders. It would, moreover, seem to remove this objection in two ways. In the first place the fraternity would become a direct incentive to closer application to work. The fraternity members would take care not to over rush a student lest she be kept from her work and fail so as to become ineligible. The rushees themselves would take every precaution not to fall below the standard. This would directly benefit those being considered for membership. Secondly,

the fraternity girls themselves would be benefited. They would necessarily be those of sufficient ability to attain a certain standard, and having once attained it would be likely to maintain it. If scholarship were made a prerequisite, persons once admitted would take care lest the standard of continued membership fall below that of eligibility for admission.

Further than this, a scholarship basis would seem to immediately place fraternity membership on a higher plane. The very fact that all the fraternities of a Pan-Hellenic put themselves on record as considering scholarship desirable above mere attractiveness or popularity would show outsiders that fraternity life is based on serious principles. Persons who now look with disapproval would be led to respect the fraternity as a factor in academic life instead of an essentially social organization.

No one, I think, would deny that good standing is desirable in fraternity members. The difficulty lies in determining how to gauge scholarship in individual cases. It is hard to frame a hard and fast rule which might not at times work injustice. Most especially is this true of the freshman year. At the time when the great majority of students are pledged to fraternities they have not had time to thoroughly prove their true worth. As I have said, a brilliant girl may be handicapped through poor preparation. There may be extenuating circumstances which keep her from taking a good stand in her first set of examinations. The fact is, nevertheless, that fraternities are coming more and more to realize that no student should be taken in on apparent worth only. This lies at the back of the general adoption of late pledge days and the prohibition of pledging high school students. Perhaps it would be impossible to make a scholarship standard on the basis of marks. It might be possible to gain co-operation from the faculty, by requesting them to publish to the Pan-Hellenic association a list of persons whom they considered worthy of fraternity honors. The whole matter certainly merits discussion and consideration, for I have never heard of any fraternity or of any Pan-Hellenic association which was thoroughly satisfied with the present basis of admission.

THEODORA HALL.



ACADEMIC HALL, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

SIXTH GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

University presidents, educators, social workers, clergymen, and authors, to the number of one thousand or more, made their way into Chicago as delegates and visitors to the sixth general convention of the Religious Educational Association which opened its three days' sessions in Chicago February 10.

The following is the program of the Department of Universities and Colleges. The second and third sessions have been reported for us by Kappa Alpha Thetas in attendance.

DEPARTMENT OF UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES.

President—Francis W. Kelsey, Ph.D., Ann Arbor, Mich.
Recording Secretary—Blanche Zehring, Ph.D., Aurora, N. Y.
Executive Secretary—Wallace N. Stearns, Ph.D., Grand Forks, N. D.

FIRST SESSION.

A Symposium on the Problem of Religious Instruction and Religious Influence in State Universities.

1. Statement of the Problem—
President Henry S. Pritchett, Carnegie Foundation, New York.
2. The State University and the Religious Denominations—
Rev. Fr. Joseph W. Cochran, Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Education, Philadelphia.
3. The State University and the School of Theology—
Dean Shailer Mathews, University of Chicago.
4. Religious Instruction in State Universities from the Legal Standpoint—
Chancellor Frank Strong, University of Kansas.
(To be read by title.)
5. What Can Be Done and What Can Not Be Done—
President Cyrus Northrup, University of Minnesota.
6. The State University of Iowa Plan for Religious Education—
Chancellor George E. MacLean, University of Iowa.
7. Discussion (speakers limited to seven minutes)—
Representatives of Religious Denominations.
Representatives of the State Universities.

SECOND SESSION, THURSDAY, 9:30 A. M.

Worship, led by—

Rev. Austin K. DeBlois, D.D., Pastor First Baptist Church.

Joint Session of the Department of Universities and Colleges and
of the Interdenominational Conference of Church and
Guild Workers in State Universities.

Subject: Moral and Religious Influences as Related to Environ-
ment of Student Life.

1. Dormitory Life for College Men—

President Charles F. Thumig, Western Reserve.

2. Dormitory Life for College Women—

Dean Marion Talbot, University of Chicago.

3. Factors in the Dormitory Problem—

President Richard Cecil Hughes, Ripon College.

4. The Private Dormitory—

President Charles W. Eliot, Harvard University.

5. The Private Boarding-House for College Women—

*Miss Mary Bidwell Breed, Adviser of Women, University
of Missouri.*

6. The College Sorority as a Substitute for the Woman's Dormi-
tory—

*Mrs. Cora Stranahan Woodward, Adviser of Women, Uni-
versity of Wisconsin.*

7. General Discussion, introduced by—

Professor Charles F. Kent, Yale University.

THIRD SESSION, THURSDAY, 2:30 P. M.

Subject: The College Fraternity as a Factor in the Religious and
Moral Life of Students.

Worship, led by—

*Rev. Wm. White Wilson, D.D., Rector St. Mark's Protestant
Episcopal Church.*

1. History and Early Ideals, of the Greek Letter Societies—

Albert P. Jacobs, Detroit.

2. The Fraternity of Today—

Clarence F. Birdseye, New York.

3. The College Fraternity in the State University—

*President Edmund J. James and Dean Thomas A. Clark,
University of Illinois.*

4. The College Fraternity as an Ally in Maintaining Institutional
Standards—

President Guy Potter Benton, Miami University.

5. Discussion—

Professor Ernest H. Lindley, University of Indiana.

Professor William A. Scott, University of Wisconsin.

Professor Henry M. Bates, University of Michigan.

Business Meeting: Report of Secretary.

SECOND SESSION.

The second session of the Department of Universities and Colleges was devoted to the "Moral and Religious Influence as Related to the Environment of Student Life." Dormitory, boarding house and fraternity house life were presented in all its phases and the various advantages and disadvantages discussed. The program was an interesting one.

President Charles T. Thwing, of Western Reserve University, gave a clear, concise paper on "Dormitory Life for Men," emphasizing the necessity for a strictly academic life for students. This need was best met by the dormitory which furnished the essential corporate life and the right surrounding and influences which are as needful as the class-room discipline to the development of student character.

Dean Marion Talbot of Chicago University, pictured the ideal dormitory for women. It is the substitute for home life during the college years and should be so organized as to foster and strengthen the girls' domestic side and surround her with the necessary social and ethical influences.

President Richard Cecil Hughes, Ripon College, gave what he termed "a practical solution of the dormitory problem." The object of college life should be to discover a man's best line and train him to it. Much of all this takes place outside of laboratory and class-room. The faculty realize the importance of a student's leisure time and should do all in their power to regulate and provide the most favorable conditions and surroundings for development. College should train men for home life and citizenship. The chief errors of the present methods of living in college are either too much government, which hampers the conscien-

tious or incites others to break the rules, or no government, placing all responsibility alike on the weak and strong."

His idea is to have the students live in small groups, not too small to endanger democracy or too large for development of individuality. At the head of all these groups or houses, there should be a non-resident faculty adviser. He should be a man who has faith in the goodness of the students, capable of keeping in close touch with all, and should train them for citizenship. Each group should make its own rules and settle its own troubles and disputes; the house should be governed by an upper-classman elected by vote. In case of need, difficulties should be referred to the faculty adviser. By this plan self-government is taught and the need for home life supplied.

A similar plan is advised for the women, the adviser in this case residing in the house as chaperon.

President Charles W. Eliot, Harvard University, described the dormitory system at Harvard. He said: "We have no problems or difficulties." Besides the college dormitories there are twenty-five private dormitories built by private individuals or groups, primarily for investments, although it is doubtful whether as such they have paid. They are built to accommodate the richer students and many are very luxurious. "This is their chief fault," said President Eliot. They segregate the rich and furnish more luxury than needful comfort. A hardier life is more advisable. But on the whole they have proved successful and have been a means of educating the college in better methods of caring for the students. All are under faculty supervision. There are few rules but no disorder, or vices, as the owner is particular that the house shall not acquire a bad name and cause vacancy of rooms.

Miss Mary Bidwell Breed, Adviser of Women, University of Missouri, vividly described the modern college boarding house with its tired, untidy landlady, ugly wall paper and furnishings, small crowded rooms, unattractive table and poor food, absolutely lacking in ethical or home influences. College is supposed to graduate cultivated students

but how is this possible when they spend half of their time in class-rooms under specialists, themselves perhaps uncultivated, and the remainder of the time in boarding houses absolutely devoid of any refining or æsthetic influences?

"When the girls ask us for the bread of education, is it not a stone very different from the philosopher's which we give them?" There are 7,000 women in nine colleges of the middle west. A very small proportion reside in dormitories or sorority houses. The remainder live in boarding houses or rooming houses. The University of Wisconsin owns its own halls and the Universities of Minnesota, Iowa and Kansas are petitioning their legislatures this year for dormitories. But at best it will be some time before all students can be accommodated and meanwhile an effort to reform the boarding houses must be made. The progress of such reform is slow owing to the demand for cheap living on the part of the students, the difficulties of the boarding house keeper to make a living and the type of woman who is seeking this method for a livelihood. The greatest good can be accomplished by the building of model boarding houses which shall set a higher standard for them all, and serve as an example. Such houses must be widely advertised to be influential. The University of Missouri has such a house.

The most interesting paper of all to fraternity women was read by Mrs. Cora S. Woodward, Adviser of Women, University of Wisconsin, on the subject of Sorority Houses. She first sketched the sorority and what it stood for, its organization, extent, governments, and growth. Then followed a most interesting description of the building of the first sorority house at Syracuse by Alpha Chapter of Alpha Phi in 1886. The corner-stone was laid with all the formalities and ceremonies attending the laying of any corner-stone. The alumnae realizing the need of a home for the chapter, as well as increased comforts possible to the individuals, gladly contributed to the building fund and made the house possible. It was primarily a home for the girls during their college life and successive sorority houses have shared the purposes of the initial one.

The chaperon is often called "Mother," which shows the personal regard in which she is held. She is in a position to exercise much influence for good. The necessity of maintaining the honor of the fraternity and the house results in a high standard of conduct for each individual. The feeble sister is urged to live in the house that she may have the influence of the older and stronger girls. It has been compared to a church "Which takes what you have to give and gives what you need to have." This fraternity house life supplies valuable lessons in practical home making as well as self-government. In fact in many cases the freshman rules are stricter than those of the college dormitory. The rules are generally filed with the university faculty. As a whole the attitude of fraternity houses are fairly sane and they give to the college, *alumnæ* endowed houses for the students.

Mrs. Woodward, however, does not advocate sorority houses to a university which can care for all its students in college dormitories, but advises them as a substitute for boarding houses. Certain reforms are advocated. First a larger chapter unit making it unnecessary to fill the house with freshmen. The benefits of such a plan would be three-fold, to the girl, the fraternity, and the college. The freshman would thus have time and freedom herself to learn her work and classmates, without having these determined for her. The chief objections to fraternity houses, the lack of democracy and tendency to too absorbing home life would be avoided. In time she hopes that the sorority house will be the reward of the later years of college life, after a girl's position and friends have been established.

HELEN M. NIND, *Delta Alumnæ*.

THIRD SESSION.

The Thursday afternoon session of the Religious Education Association was given over to the discussion of fraternities, primarily of men's fraternities. The principal paper of the afternoon was that read by Mr. Clarence F. Birdseye of New York.

This paper dealt with the history of the fraternity movement and with "The Fraternity of Today." The fraternity movement, it was stated, started with the organization of Phi Beta Kappa in 1776 and in its early stage continued till after the organization of the early fraternities at Union and elsewhere in the first half of the next century. Alongside of this fraternity movement, and continuing as the movement has itself continued, was found the anti-fraternity spirit, dating its inception to 1826. At that time the abduction and murder of a man in New York (Morgan, by name), was traced to the Masons, this man having threatened to reveal the secrets of Freemasonry. The country was violently roused, and the anti-secret-society spirit was tremendous.

The whole history of fraternities, Mr. Birdseye said, might well be seen as having had four distinct stages. This first stage was the stage of ultra-secrecy and of crude and rough beginnings. The second stage was that denominated the social stage, when fraternity men had gained prominence, and social recognition followed. The third stage was the stage of home building. This stage was marked by the bringing of alumni into contact with under-graduates, a new state of things, and a state of things not existing today in non-fraternity colleges. In the latter the spirit is rather that of "You ran it when you were here, now we'll run it to suit ourselves."

These three stages bring us to the fourth stage, the stage in which the fraternity of today exists, that of home-making. Mr. Birdseye stated emphatically that the fact must be faced that the colleges of today are being governed actually and absolutely by fraternity men, in their boards of trustees, in their faculties, in their undergraduate bodies. He quoted statistics from many of the eastern colleges to show the proportion of fraternity men among their trustees was from 70 to 90% of the college men. This fact can have but two inferences: either the fraternities chose the best men, or they took in ordinary men and trained them to these results.

Such facts cause us to face a serious question as to the utilization of fraternities. The under-graduate is the one factor to be considered. Even the non-fraternity men are today being so organized in our colleges as to become inoculated with something of the fraternity spirit.

The old college was a school based upon home principles. The true home feeling was inspired by flogging interposed betwixt the preceeding and succeeding prayers of the "flogger." Definite rules and definite penalties were affixed to each act. Then the college attained the state of professional business, where contracts were the rule. Finally another home plane was attained. Thus in the three planes of its existence, that of law, contract, and home rule, the old college trained for citizenship.

Today the business of colleges is likewise to train for citizenship rather than for professional scholarship. They too have to train upon the government, community, and home planes. But they have set apart this government plane as belonging to study. To athletics has been given this training in community life. To the fraternities is given the training in home life.

The training in the home is possible only from the inside of the home, *i. e.*, from the alumni. If any fraternity house becomes a center of evil it is the fault of the college authorities in not going to the alumni, and on the faculty and alumni the blame is to be laid.

The old Alma Mater is dead, the old Alma Mater of the Puritan type. The new Alma Mater is a matron, buxom, rich, taking her ease, accounting not for her expenditures. The estate of the old Alma Mater is divided. The fraternities received her home. Athletics received her college spirit and her college motto, "Team-work, hard work, good work." The pedagogues received only her marking system.

Mr. Birdseye's speech was the subject of some discussion, chiefly adverse criticism by the dethroned "pedagogues" so vigorously referred to.

Dean Thomas A. Clarke of the University of Illinois,

spoke next on "The College Fraternity in the State University." He spoke of the rapid growth of the fraternity spirit in Illinois having come from living conditions which forced the organization of fraternities as rather "glorified boarding clubs." He spoke of the good discipline and high moral tone of fraternities as he knew them. They make, however, rather for general efficiency than unusual scholarship among men. The two dangers of fraternity life are exclusiveness and extravagance. Their value lies in their stimulation to friendship, to good scholarship, to high ideals.

President Benton of Miami University, which is the college mother of three fraternities, gave an address on "The College Fraternity as an Ally in Maintaining Institutional Standards." He spoke of the fraternity as "a strong arm of power, a forceful ally in enforcing institutional standards. "The problem today," he said, in regard to fraternities, "is not one of elimination but of use." He then spoke of their usefulness in maintaining scholarship, morality and general efficiency among college men. The ideal as he presented it would be to have every man in a fraternity-like group.

A general discussion followed this paper, a discussion which was surprisingly commendatory.

The whole discussion, if I may offer individual comment, was with regard to fraternities as they serve the man who is in them, or as they serve the college in guiding or disciplining the man who is in them. In this way, it seemed to me that the real problem which ought to be faced was avoided. The college should, it would seem, rather consider the greatest good of the greatest number. Is the college fraternity the best possible way of helping *all* the members of the college? Does it not center all the college welfare about the chosen few? Is it fair to the college men and women who are not in fraternities? And indeed, is it not a somewhat selfish consideration of fraternities which leaves out the consideration of the non-fraternity men and women? And, if I may say it, with all due respect to the Association, does it not seem strange that a

Religious Association should fail to consider *fully* this side of a perplexing question, where certainly the only possible results for good are to be obtained by a frank facing of the question with an aim of absolute justice towards all.

LILY BESS CAMPBELL, Alpha Theta.

NATIONAL PAN-HELLENIC ACHIEVEMENTS IN SEVEN YEARS

- A. In the conference itself.
 - 1. Increase in membership from seven to twelve fraternities.
 - 2. Establishment of standard for a national college fraternity: "Not less than five college chapters and none in an institution below college rank."
 - 3. Change of name from Intersorority conference to National Pan-Hellenic.
 - 4. Adoption of a working constitution insuring the permanency of the annual conferences.
- B. In the national fraternity life.
 - 1. Co-operation and frank discussion among national officers of the special problems in special colleges.
 - 2. Exchange among fraternity officers of the Journals of the women's fraternities.
- C. In the college fraternity.
 - 1. The abolishment of pledging among preparatory students, except at the University of Michigan—where, owing to peculiar local conditions, the national fraternity chapters there have been granted permission to pledge high school seniors only until September, 1909.
 - 2. Formation of college Pan-Hellenics wherever two or more nationals are represented. These Pan-Hellenics consist of one alumna and one active member from every national fraternity represented in the college.
 - 3. A pledge day in every college fixed by the college Pan-Hellenic association.

4. No part of the initiation ceremony to take place in public.
5. Universal discountenancing of "lifting."
6. Women's fraternities interested in general college activities and taking active steps in formation of women's leagues.

D. Important publications.

1. Reports of the annual conferences.
2. A model college Pan-Hellenic constitution.
3. A model women's league constitution.
4. Report on social customs in co-educational colleges in the United States.
5. Report on present conditions of Pan-Hellenics in the United States.
6. Two circulars for fraternity *alumnæ* setting forth the aims and purposes of the National Pan-Hellenic.

E. Incidental achievements.

1. Two meetings of fraternity delegates with the Conference of Deans of Women, where a frank discussion of fraternity life in the college—its advantages and shortcomings—left with the fraternities many ideas for the improvement of fraternity life.
2. A great increase in trust and respect among rival fraternity chapters.

F. Present activities.

1. Organizing, in each university community, of resident *alumnæ* of all fraternities to study local problems and advise steps for their solution.
2. Efforts for later pledge day.
3. Definite university scholarship attainment among the qualifications for eligibility to fraternity membership.
4. Pan-Hellenic efforts to restrict the excessive social life of the fraternity women in its college. Also co-operation in the reduction of the elaborateness and expense of social functions.

5. More efforts toward securing the co-operation of fraternity alumnæ in dealing with fraternity problems.
 6. Raising scholarship standards in fraternity chapters.
 7. Increasing the dignity of the office of chapter house chaperone and the securing of suitable women for these important positions.
 8. Formation of a code of etiquette regarding dismissals, pledging, etc.
- G. Conclusion.

The breadth of these present activities, touching all phases of college life, as contrasted with the avowed purpose of the 1902 (first) conference to "discuss pledging and rushing, suggesting a set of by-laws for the amelioration of existing rushing conditions," is the best proof of the progressive usefulness and strength of this organization so characteristic of the very finest fraternity spirit. May the next seven years see even greater achievement and a constantly broadening field for influential co-operation for the improvement of women's fraternity life.

COME TO THE CONVENTION AT CHICAGO JUNE 29 AND 30, JULY 1 AND 2

WHY AN ALUMNA SHOULD ATTEND CONVENTION.

Those active and alumnæ Thetas who are already certain of attending convention are indeed fortunate, and all hope that many alumnæ whose plans for the summer are still vague may decide to join the happy throng journeying to Chicago. What greater enjoyment could they gain from a summer trip than spending a week in the same hotel in close companionship with two hundred of their own fraternity?

The average alumna lives in the past in regard to the real fraternity activities; her knowledge of our business organization extends little further than the date of her last fraternity examination; and although she may know that two chapters have been established since the last convention, probably she does not know their chapter names or know two reasons why those charters were granted when others nearby were refused.

As one should live in the present of the world's news, so should one live in the present of our fraternity's life. Attending convention means the opportunity to meet those who are actively grappling with the problems of administration and those who, with far-seeing eyes, are mapping out plans for the future growth and accomplishment of the fraternity; it means the privilege of partaking in the discussions preceding the legislation which is to mark the 1909 milestone in Theta's progress.

Not all the joys of convention are those of receiving. It is an alumna's privilege to link the fraternity as the younger girl sees it, to the fraternity of five, ten or twenty years ago. The active girls should hear those reminiscences of past struggles and successes in order properly to appreciate the beauty of the edifice which is built upon nearly forgotten yet substantial foundations. It is the alumna's place to add to convention the mature mind and lessons gained by experience that may help solve the questions of present moment.

CLARA FANNING, Upsilon.

WHY ALUMNÆ CHAPTERS SHOULD BE WELL REPRESENTED.

Convention needs the presence of the alumnae delegate. Such a delegate's influence is not limited, as the chapter sending her may think, to the half vote that the law allows her, for a few words from her may aid in the right solution of some difficult problem, or in many other ways her presence may be felt. Theta needs the ideas that the general viewpoint of an alumna can give. An alumnae chapter, composed, as it is, of members from many states and schools,

can sometimes choose more wisely for the common good than the active chapter whose horizon is necessarily bounded by local conditions.

But if Convention needs the *alumnæ* delegate, the *alumnæ* chapter has greater need to send her. It little becomes us, as daughters of the United States, to submit to "taxation without representation," and unless the Convention is composed of at least one delegate from each and every chapter of our organization, then our governing body has failed in the first law of its being. But what return does the chapter receive for its outlay of money and effort? The answer is not far to seek. The chapter gains by the difference between personality and print, and receives a new spirit of enthusiasm which is to it as the breath of life itself. The spirit that lends thrilling interest to the tales of the hero who was "on the spot"; that sends us to hear the lecturer on his platform, or the players on the stage, when the same time spent in reading the lecture or play would give the same intellectual returns; that which makes the letter of a friend the mere halting substitute for his presence, that spirit is our acknowledgment of our dependence on personal contact. We grant that a chapter could read and study Convention reports and continue indefinitely its mechanical existence, but let that chapter send its delegate to Convention, and what happens? She has seen whereof she shall presently speak, she has heard intonations as well as words, she has made friends for her chapter, she has presented her chapter to the Convention as a force, not a name only, and through her passes that electric spark of enthusiasm that shall galvanize her chapter into new life.

And not only should the one official delegate be sent from the *alumnæ* chapter, but all members for whom attendance at the Convention is a possibility, should meet in Chicago on June 30. For if these great benefits accrue to the chapter and the fraternity from the presence of one delegate, will they not be multiplied again and again by the presence of each additional member of the *alumnæ* chapter?

MARIE NETTLETON ROSE, Xi *Alumnæ*.

WHY AN UNDERGRADUATE SHOULD ATTEND CONVENTION.

By all means, go to Convention. Every one of you, whether you be freshman or senior, should do your level best to be on hand. If you are one of the favored who attended the 1907 Convention, you will know why I urge this, and if you have never been to a Convention, go, and find out why everyone who has, is so enthusiastic. In the first place there is a new and wonderful impetus given to that intangible something called Theta spirit. You feel prouder and happier than ever to belong to an organization in which so many splendid women are so vitally interested. You feel as never before that the purpose of our fraternity must be right fundamentally to produce, or at least develop, such types of womanhood as are everywhere present in the convention hall. You feel that you can go back to your chapter with a new zest after having come into contact with so many sisters who seem almost ideal.

And that brings me to another point. None of them are so ideal that they are not human. The "Grand Officers" always sounded a long way off and, to tell the truth, rather unapproachable. But when one has seen a woman like our last Grand President, Mrs. Garrettson, in her capacity as presiding officer, so sweet, so womanly, and withal so capable, and then finds her just as charming and unassuming when meeting the most inconspicuous of the sisterhood, there at once arises a new admiration for such a woman and the resolution to live up to the principles of Kappa Alpha Theta which shine forth as dominant forces in her character.

Subordinate to the Theta spirit, there is a healthy chapter spirit aroused. There cannot help but be a feeling of pride and pleasure when you find that your chapter excels in some respects and that its customs are approved. Perhaps more salutary is the feeling of shame for your chapter's weak points, for there comes the instant resolve to remedy the evil. Strong and weak points are in no way so sharply emphasized as when brought into comparison with corresponding points of other chapters, and there is no other

opportunity in the chapter life which affords so good a chance for comparing experiences.

Further reasons for the undergraduates' attendance at Convention are, the new realization of the broad outlook of our founders, the hearty respect and feeling of fellowship for our officers and sister chapters, and the sense of unity, all of which must of necessity instill a new enthusiasm and loyalty into the life of every chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta.

LOUISE SHIPMAN, Delta '08.

CONCERNING THE BENEFITS TO THE CHAPTER OF A LARGE DELEGATION AT CONVENTION.

Although the benefits to the chapter are not all recognized at a glance, one feels inclined perhaps to sum up the whole under information and enthusiasm. There is a tremendous inspiration in seeing two hundred people from far and near, all living under and striving for the same ideal; and the inspiration that comes from seeing the older women—our *alumnæ*—to whom Theta is still worthy, is even greater than that of seeing the strength and glory of the active chapters, for *alumnæ* make our aims high and guide us toward them.

While it is right and necessary that one person in particular shall act for the chapter in Conventions, she, being but one, can carry back to the chapter but one view; and instead of having the delegate take the convention to the chapter, the chapter in a body should come to convention "to read, mark, learn" and to enjoy. As a result of large attendance, the chapter will return with a new point of view wherein the good of the fraternity as a whole, and an understanding of its national aims and needs will be present. There is bound to be unity then; and the greater the national, the greater the chapter loyalty and the stronger the incentive to hold our ideals high and follow hard.

MARION GRACE PEABODY.



ALPHA MU'S CHAPTER HOUSE



ALPHA MU'S CHAPTER HOUSE

A CONVENTION SUGGESTION

During the early years of the fraternity, one of the best means of strengthening the chapters scattered over the country, and of creating enthusiasm in all parts of the fraternity equally, was the National Convention. For this reason, with others perhaps, it was moved biennially to the different parts of the country. Since we have grown into a well-developed unit of organization, however, it has seemed to me that the advantages of having permanent headquarters for Conventions over those of our present system, are many.

One of the most important items to be gained from this plan is the simplification of financial details, which are at present not a small consideration. At each Convention it is necessary for the Grand Treasurer to make out the traveling expense slips of each delegate, estimate the money and refund it to her. This takes a great amount of time and could be eliminated by having permanent headquarters with the routes from the different chapters mapped out for the delegate, and her traveling expenses forwarded. The amount of money necessary for mere transportation would be known beforehand, leaving a better idea of the money remaining to be spent otherwise.

If such a plan were adopted, every Theta, old or young, no matter how long she had been away from her chapter, would know where the next Convention was to be held, and could make her plans accordingly. From our present method of selecting the place at the last possible moment, it is an easy matter for many Thetas outside of both active and alumnae chapters, to learn too late the plans for the coming Convention.

The responsibility of entertainment which falls on some one chapter located in the place chosen, would soon be obliterated. The transferring of the Convention from place to place, but always to the home of some chapter, makes this chapter necessarily feel the obligations of a hostess; and this requires a great amount of time and expense. This would not be the case if separate permanent headquarters were established.

The idea of permanent headquarters in itself is not enough, however; some satisfactory, well-located place must be agreed upon before adopting this plan. If it is to be final, it should be accessible to the greater number of chapters in the fraternity. As the National Biennial Convention is the one and only time where the chapters are represented, and where the opinions of the fraternity members at large are considered, the best Convention will naturally result from the one having the largest number of members present. It was on this account that the Chicago Convention of 1907 was probably the most successful one ever held. In regard to the selection of the place for that Convention the Grand Treasurer said, "It was an ideal place for Convention; the attractiveness of the place, and the accommodating management—all things united to make this one of the most memorable Conventions that Kappa Alpha Theta has ever seen." Such was the Convention held in July, 1907, at Chicago, Illinois.

Chicago is the central location, within reasonable distance of over one-half of our chapters, and more likely to be visited by the members from the farther ones. Aside from its value as a place of general interest and attractions, it has by far the best accommodations and can afford the lowest rates.

If we can find such a place for permanent headquarters for the Biennial Convention of Kappa Alpha Theta; one that will be the means of simplifying financial difficulties; of lessening the time and expense required of any one chapter; of bringing together more members as representatives of the different chapters; and accommodating the largest number of people in the best way, let us all make an attempt to bring about such a plan, and vote for the best Convention City,—Chicago.

CLARA GRIDLEY, '08

A LETTER FROM CHINA

Chentu, West China, 23 November, 1908.

DEAR THETAS:

Some people think "personal travel experiences" are very, very dull and stupid. I have inflicted several such narratives upon my friends since I came to China but this is really our editor's fault. She asked me to write.

If you lived in our great city on the vast Chentu plain I am sure when the hot months came you would long for cool sea breezes or invigorating mountain air. We are 1700 miles from the Pacific so that's impossible, and as we cannot buy land for bungalows on the hills a day's journey west of us, we must plan other things for a summer's change.

Last year some friends camped on the Tibitan border and this year Mr. Service and I made two of a party of seven who spent 50 days in camp there. We pitched our tents near the city of Ta Chien lu (pronounced Da Jen lu). This place is only 300 miles from Chentu but it took us about 13 days' travel. Up and down hill makes hard roads for chairmen and load carriers and the stages have to be short. We crossed two passes, both over 9000 feet, and found the road very interesting. It was a joy to get up out of the closely cultivated Chinese rice and vegetable fields into the rugged mountains which often looked quite like Colorado or California country.

Ta Chien lu is a picturesque place; its houses being closely packed between high, steep hills and on the banks of a roaring mountain torrent. Our camping place was a delightful spot about 10 miles up the canyon. There we found ourselves in a wild, rugged spot not far from a small Tibetan village. The people did not seem curious, as do the Chinese, so we were quite free from prying eyes. The village dogs sometimes visited us at night and stole our meat but otherwise we were entirely unmolested. Some of the men saw a black bear only a quarter of a mile from

camp. I'm glad he didn't move into our tents some dark night.

We have found that camping out here has its advantages—no fussing over camp-fires for us. Of course we had plenty of servants and I had two men to carry me in a rattan "open" chair whenever I wanted to go out for a ride. Where an able-bodied man can be hired for \$1.50 gold per month (and feed himself), it doesn't pay to do the heavy work. We had rented Tibetan tents—ours was about 12 x 15 feet—but we were glad of a foreign tarpaulin to use as secondary roof. There were four sleeping tents, one kitchen, one for servants and two put together for a dining room. We had a Chinese clay-built stove and baked every day in an oven made of kerosene tins. Of course we had to carry lots of groceries with us as one has to everywhere here in the west but we bought an abundance of milk from the village and vegetables, flour, and beef from Ta Chien lu where we sent a coolie nearly every day.

Our camp was at 10,050 feet. I wish my pen could describe its situation. The head of the valley showed us a snow-capped peak on whose side nestled a big glacier. The tumbling stream just by us came straight from the ice and was cold, I tell you. The flowers were beyond description. The grass was literally covered with them. In our tents we had some boards but where there were none, the flowers even bloomed "indoors." I noticed asters persisting in it right under my cot. There were many old friends among the flowers but hundreds of new ones; two gentlemen we met up there getting collections of birds and flowers for Harvard University must have fared well. Everything from wild poppies and primroses to eidelweiss and everlasting flowers seemed to flourish.

Our men made more excursions than we ladies attempted but I had one rare trip when four of us went up onto a pass about 13,800 feet in elevation. A perfect day gave us beautiful views of a range of magnificent snow peaks. Rising from the pass and on their sides we could plainly see four glaciers. I never expect to see quite such a sight again.

The wind there was bitterly cold but nevertheless in spite of our sun-helmets we were badly sun-burned.

Ta Chien lu is half Tibetan and half Chinese but the country people are all Tibetans. Of course there are numerous Lamaseries about there. We attended a most interesting ceremony at a large Lamasery just outside the city. Through the kindness of a Tibetan chief we were shown through the very fine temple and had a fine situation in a balcony from which we watched the Dance of the Spirits, commonly called "Devil's Dance." Groups of Lamas dressed most fantastically in the richest of brocades, satins and embroideries went through a variety of dances keeping time to music furnished by two huge horns, cymbals and a number of drums. The colors were gorgeous and each set of dancers wore a new variety of costume. The masks were very large and the wearers looked through the open mouths. This made the dancers seem abnormally tall. The movements were not unlike those of the American Indians.

Hundreds of people had come from far and near to see the festival which lasted three days. We were there on the second day. Inside the temple we saw many rich hangings and many curious cakes made of butter and tsamba (barley flour). These latter were to be eaten by the lamas at the close of the festival. In the main room a lama told us there were 1,000 butter lamps burning. The smell was not in the least offensive though one might judge it would be. We saw a library of Tibetan books and curious and beautifully carved butter images.

The Tibetans use milk and butter and are quite unlike Chinese in this. They eat meat if able to afford it but the common diet is "brick tea" and tsamba. The tea is coarse and imported from China in bricks, a compressed sort of method to facilitate carrying it in. Each Tibetan carries his own wooden bowl in his clothing. The tea is boiled in an open kettle and if available butter is added. It is then ladled out. The eaters sit on floor or ground. They pour in the barley flour with their fingers and with the same utensil stir up a sort of dough of tea and flour. This

they eat with great gusto. The barley is parched before being ground but gets no other cooking. What about this for the simple life!

Even the poorest Tibetans wear silver ornaments and the apron chains, clasps, bracelets and earrings are massive and very attractive. They think we must be extremely poor to wear "fish-bone" (pearl) buttons when theirs are all silver. Of course we bought curios. Among my finest are a brass pot, a prayer wheel, two rugs (much like Persian ones), and a long silver chain. The latter is just fine for my muff.

We think our trip did us good and that we have stored up enough energy so we can spend this next summer on the plain.

It has been a pleasure to write this and I hope it may be of a little interest. If it would bring a response from some old Omega girl it would cheer me. I've not seen a pin save my own for three years but I wear mine even here. If any of you wish to take a summer trip to the Tibetan Himalayas come our way, but you must start early. It would take at least four months from San Francisco to Ta Chien lu.

With best greetings,

GRACE BOGGS SERVICE,

Omega, 1902.

Address: Mrs. Robert R. Service, Care Y. M. C. A.,
Chentu, West China.

THE WORK OF MARY SIFTON PEPPER

Of the hundreds of charming and talented women whom Kappa Alpha Theta has had the good fortune to number among her own, there is no one in whom we have reason to take greater pride than in Miss Mary Sifton Pepper, whose death occurred in the summer of 1908.

Rev. Geo. W. Pepper, the father of Miss Pepper, was a most gifted and talented clergyman, who emigrated to this country from Ireland in the year 1854, and is said to have been the most popular Irish born man in America.

Certain it is that he was possessed of rare literary tastes and attainments, and upon his children this mantle of learning fell most naturally and gracefully.

Miss Mary Pepper, the subject of this sketch, began her literary career soon after her graduation from Wooster University in 1883, and was for many years a contributor to newspapers and magazines. The work, however, for which she is most widely celebrated is her "Maids and Matrons of New France."

Miss Pepper, who was a brilliant linguist, became interested in the subject of her book while translating from the French "The Jesuit Relations," a work of some sixty volumes. The heroism of the women who emigrated to America during the times of its early history impressed Miss Pepper deeply, and finding that no work rendering them full justice, was extant, she set herself the task of remedying the fault, the result of which was her "Maids and Matrons of New France." For this work she received hundreds of honorable notices and reviews, from all over the United States and Canada.

Four years of Miss Pepper's life was spent in Italy perfecting herself in the French and Italian languages, and in Italian literature, and while there she was one of the editors of *The Italian News*, a journal published in English.

On her return to America she translated "Cadore," the most famous poem of Italy's most illustrious poet, Giosuè Carducci. This poem with a sketch of the poet, appeared in *The Arena*. The poet was greatly pleased with Miss Pepper's translation and sent her an autograph letter and a photograph. Miss Pepper was also the translator of a French art catalogue of some thousand pages.

She was a believer in hard work and for many years wrote from three to five hours a day.

There were two other daughters and a brother in this remarkable family who have distinguished themselves in literary circles: Miss Lena Lindsey Pepper who lives in Cleveland, Ohio; Miss Caroline Pepper, a brilliant young

newspaper correspondent of Washington, who was also a Theta, and who died some 19 years ago; and Charles M. Pepper, a prominent newspaper man of Washington, and author of several well-known books.

FOUNDERS' DAY WITH IOTA ALUMNAE

"A cup of Theta memories, I hold;
A mine of youth,—of very sunshine gold."

With these lines Mrs. Coffin, President of Iota Alumnae, proposed a toast to the founders of Kappa Alpha Theta,— "those inspired women to whom we owe much joy and good-fellowship." The celebration, always of great interest, was held on the evening of January 29, at the Woman's Club House, Los Angeles, and brought together at Iota's banquet table fifty Thetas from Los Angeles and near-by cities.

"You have no doubt heard," Mrs. Coffin said, "of the doctor who said 'There are some things that begin small and get bigger,—babies, kittens, diseases, buildings, sins, potatoes and family squabbles.' When those four women, Bettie Locke Hamilton, Alice Allen Brant, Hannah Fitch Shaw and Bettie Tipton Lindsey, were inspired with the glorious idea of a national fraternity for women, they made the idea big to begin with. Now, with more than forty loyal chapters of sisters bound together in the bond our founders gave us, the fraternity has indeed demonstrated its right to a big beginning. And what a revelation to these pioneers must be the interest and enthusiasm of active and alumnae chapters as their members find Theta ideals meeting the broadening demands of life.

Could our alumnae chapters uphold the ideal our elder sisters gave us in any better way than by using every talent possible to make our scholarship fund grow, and help some Theta sisters to higher attainments in scholarship? What are the discouragements of gathering such a fund compared to those of founding a great fraternity? Let us be worthy



MISS MARY SIFTON PEPPER
Epsilon Mu Alumnae



DR. ANN M. MACLEAN
Author of "Wage Earning Women,"
reviewed in January issue

of our founders, and launch out on this real Theta undertaking with the determination that it must win. Chapters so widely separated are not convinced in a day. Constant work here will soon demand interest, and we as pioneers in this cause may look back on present difficulties with a smile."

We were fortunate in having with us a member of the Grand Council, Miss Jessie Macfarland, who made a delightful toast-mistress, and a Past Grand President, Mrs. Garrettson, who gave us an interesting account of the personnel of the Grand Council. The following toasts were responded to:

Oh, Theta sisters, join with me
To swell the loyal chorus;
To sing of our fraternity
Whose loving reign is o'er us.

MISS BARNWELL.

I pledge you first my Kappa strong,
You know full well its power.

MRS. OVERTON.

May Alpha lead us ne'er to wrong,
But be of strength our tower.

MISS CRAIG.

We find the test of chivalry
Embodied in dear Theta;
Then let us pledge staunch loyalty
To Kappa Alpha Theta.

MRS. POWERS.

In conclusion, the Toastmistress called the roll by chapter, and was answered with late news or chapter anecdote by Mrs. Bovard and Mrs. Hammond for Alpha, Henrietta Hough for Delta, Dorthea Nourse for Eta, Mrs. Lippincott for Kappa, Catharine Miltmore for Omicron, Hazel Traphagen for Phi, Lucile Locke for Alpha Delta, Mrs. Heineman for Omega, Edna Brown for Upsilon, Jessie Morgan for Rho.

JANE SPAULDING,
Iota Alumnae, Los Angeles.

EXCHANGES

Exchange editor, MYRA POST CADY.

Exchanges will please see that the following addresses are on their exchange lists:

Charlotte H. Walker, 1129 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor, Mich.

Mrs. Wm. B. Cady, 550 Jefferson Ave., Detroit, Mich.

Miss Anna Harrison, 1243 Western Ave., Topeka, Kan.

We acknowledge the receipt of the following exchanges:

October: *Phi Chi Quarterly*.

November: *Eleusis*, *Alpha Xi Delta*, *Themis*, *Sigma Chi Quarterly*, *To Dragma*.

December: *Delta Upsilon Quarterly*, *Caduceus*, *Record*, *Phi Gamma Delta*, *Key*.

January: *Crescent*, *Garnet and White*, *Arrow*, *Caduceus*, *Anchora*, *Shield*.

THE CHAPTER HOUSE AND ITS EFFECT UPON THE FRATERNITY.

For the following article upon "The Chapter House and Its Effect upon the Fraternity," we are indebted to the *Delta Upsilon Quarterly*, and its editor, Mr. William O. Miller.

Professor E. E. McDermott, the writer of this article, was professor of elocution and oratory at the University of Minnesota, and his interest and sympathy in the consideration of his subject are entirely upon the side of the student. Prof. McDermott died February 25, 1908, just a few days after his article was submitted to the *Delta Upsilon Quarterly*. In a letter accompanying this article, Prof. McDermott voiced his views so convincingly that they are repeated in part here:

Briefly my thought is this: the fraternity is here to stay; it is a power for good or for ill; its present tendency is downward because scholarship—the chief purpose for which a man comes to college, but still only one of the purposes—is being neglected; it is in the power of the alumni to correct this tendency; they must correct it or the fraternities will decline still further—they will decline until the intellectual and moral scum of the universities is drawn into them; when this comes about what will take the place of the properly organized and intelligently conducted fraternity?

Now it may be that I am all wrong in my hypothesis, which is

that good scholarship is needed today as much as ever it was and that it is the foundation upon which to rest culture and clean high grade efficient citizenship, and always will be. (One of my best and most prized friends doesn't agree with me. Success with him is power to get money. He believes that a fellow can spend most of his time in having a good time, "living" while in college, and still get the most out of it. I believe that great engineers, lawyers, doctors, and such men, must have trained minds to advance civilization, and they can't have trained minds if they smoke and play cards all of every evening. Mind you, I smoke and play cards myself, but not all the time.) Now if I am wrong in my hypothesis then it is not worth while to print the paper at all, and I am a moss-back and should shut up. This I am willing to do and go on and die with my ideas unshaken. I would not jam down the throat of the young vigorous world what it does not want. But it does grieve me to see many of our strongest, ablest, cleanest all-round young men *turn down* the fraternities because they think them effeminating.

Bless you, Sir, when the fraternity is properly developed, instead of laboring hard and long to convince fond parents that the fraternity is a safe place for their sons to enter, these same parents will come and beg to have their sons taken in, in order that they may have the care and oversight of competent upperclassmen, and the high ideals preached by interested alumni. I believe the boys and the fraternities and the Republic are worth saving, but I sometimes doubt that the present complaisant attitude of the alumni will save the boys and the fraternities and I am a little skeptical about the Republic unless our universities can turn out a few more Roosevelts who will enforce the laws against rich and poor, strong and weak alike, and prove to the common people that the government is for all the people, not for a favored few. If our colleges can't turn out such men, what good purpose are they serving?

Nothing is gained for any organization by suppressing the truth in the fear that the truth in the hands of enemies may be a dangerous weapon. * * * The fraternity system is certainly strong enough now, if it is ever going to be, to admit friendly criticism. I am a believer in the system and say so clearly; but I am so much a believer that I want it to work upward, not downward. My investigation does not pretend to be exhaustive, but my own mind is so far convinced that I think the fraternities should appoint a committee (possibly inter-fraternity) that has leisure and desire to know all the facts, and if they find them essentially as I have, they

should so impress the fraternity world that it would quietly, but persistently, set in motion certain reforms that would accomplish the desired results.

THE CHAPTER-HOUSE AND ITS EFFECT UPON THE FRATERNITY.*

BY EDWARD EUGENE McDERMOTT, *Northwestern*, '85.

The college fraternity has had three pretty distinct periods of existence and its meeting place during each of these periods has been a fair index to the status of the organization.

The first period was marked by profound secrecy on the part of the fraternity, and bitter opposition on the part of the faculty and the public. The meeting place was a student's room; not infrequently it was a protected nook in the woods, or more often a cellar under some dormitory, reached through a trap-door in the door of a devoted member's room. The badge of insignia, when worn at all, was pinned to the inside of the vest-pocket and every evidence of membership was sacredly guarded because knowledge of this fact was sure to result in expulsion or some other form of severe discipline. Every act of the fraternity was shrouded in mystery—a most alluring characteristic to the college youth, and most horrifying to the faculty and public.

Under such circumstances a half-dozen of the older fraternities were born and maintained a precarious existence between the years 1827 and 1832. Hampered in this way they could do little more than live. But, as opposition always strengthens the ties of those opposed, some of the truest college friendships were formed during this period, and a foundation was laid for better things.

The brilliant, aggressive, intrepid young men of those days were naturally drawn to the fraternity because of the very spice of the adventure. Later, many of these same men became members of college faculties. They knew the fraternity from the inside and saw no special harm in it. They had drawn its constitution and by-laws, which for the most part breathed devotion to lofty sentiments and high ideals. Naturally enough, the hostility of the faculty, when it was re-enforced by a sprinkling of these men, began to relax and the fraternity passed into its second stage of existence—toleration.

During this period a room was frequently hired over a downtown store. This was the meeting place. Some of the earliest

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"chapter halls" were erected at this time. Architecturally they are peculiar buildings and resemble jails or arsenals quite as much as dwellings. The double purpose of admitting light and preventing eaves-dropping—for the secrets of the fraternity were still supposed to be worth knowing—was accomplished by placing windows very high on the side walls or even on the roof. The pin, or insignia, came out of its hiding place in the pocket.

Finally the advantage of closer association among the members was recognized and the relative unimportance of the secrets admitted—at least tacitly. Then it was that the fraternity entered upon the third and present stage of its development. It bought or rented a dwelling house, frequently installed the entire undergraduate membership therein, and began the regular family life that has characterized it for the past quarter of a century. It is as private but scarcely more secret than any other family. It is with this third period, the chapter-house as a home, that this paper is chiefly concerned.

Has this home life—which has undoubtedly come to stay—been beneficial or harmful to the fraternity as a whole and to its individual members? Let us see. To gather facts for an intelligent answer to this question a circular letter was addressed to members of eleven different fraternities, and to the presidents, deans and registrars of numerous leading universities.

One hundred and thirty-two answers were received to the question—"What are the chief benefits of student life in the chapter-house?"

The answers are varied, but a vast majority mention intimate and lasting friendship. To show the general sentiment a few may be read.

First, from the students:

"Subordination of selfish and personal interest to the general good."

"Close fellowship and sense of chapter responsibility."

"Executive work in management of fraternity."

"Sense of responsibility placed upon upperclassmen."

From the presidents and deans:

"Means of reaching students in matters of discipline."

"A good chapter-house is a fair substitute for home life."

"Oversight by older men—especially by young graduates."

"Comradeship, coöperation, group tradition and responsibility; fairly good board and room."

"College loyalty."

"Good manners; close friendship with some men worth knowing; national fraternity better than local clique; experience in handling business affairs and avoiding collective disgrace."

Now let us look at the other side. One hundred and forty-eight answers were received to the question—"What are the chief dangers to be guarded against in the chapter-house?"

One hundred and ten, or seventy-five per cent, placed waste of time first. Other answers are scattering but interesting.

From students:

"Serious dissipation where sense of chapter honor and responsibility for chapter good name are lacking."

"Temptation to drink, gamble and indulge in the social evil pretty strong, when the crowd inclines that way."

"Smoking, playing cards and telling coarse stories for two or three hours at a stretch."

"Snobbishness, particularly in underclassmen, shown in emphasizing fraternal spirit to the detriment of college loyalty."

"Running into debt, over-exclusiveness, snobbishness and misconduct."

"Growth of clannishness and fraternity selfishness and consequent loss of college spirit; control by sporty element; freedom from restraint."

"Non-observance of 'house-rules'."

"Exclusiveness and extravagance."

From presidents and deans:

"Waste of time; dissipation of energy; clannishness; the evils of politics."

"Too much of a good time and its results."

"Loafing; contamination of crowd by dissolute members; vicious and vulgar conversation; false and cheap ideals of being men of the world; moral cynicism."

"Clannishness; house degenerating into a loafing place; undertaking cause of poor students and securing concessions, if possible; feeling of independence of university restraint socially."

"Danger of being drawn into narrow, selfish and shallow interests and thus losing the larger, more democratic influence of the college as a whole."

"Bad society and exclusiveness."

"Over-emphasis of social life; lack of responsible executive to carry out house-rules."

"The low intellectual tone—when uninfluenced by alumni—tends to pass from generation to generation."

"Cultivation of social, athletic and snobbish attitude, and general lack of seriousness."

"Substitution of social life for hard study."

"Laziness."

It becomes very apparent after reading all these letters that there are benefits and there are dangers. But whatever the benefits and dangers, we may be sure of one thing. The fraternity is here to stay and whether it grows better or worse will depend upon upon our treatment of it.

Legislators and other enemies who would destroy it by statute might just as well acknowledge—what all history proves—that wherever men are drawn together into large bodies, as they are in the modern universities, they are sure to break up into smaller groups. This being true and inevitable, we are bound to have the fraternity or some similar organization.

It is acknowledged at Princeton—where the fraternity, as such, has been successfully suppressed—that these "similar organizations," clubs and cliques, have all of the disadvantages and lack many of the advantages of the fraternity.

That it is here to stay is proven by the fact that it has grown in less than a century from a despised institution with a handful of outlaws into a respected institution with a membership, graduate and undergraduate, of over 186,000. It counts among its numbers presidents and vice-presidents, senators and congressmen, federal and state judges of supreme courts, and thousands of men high in law, medicine, the ministry, teaching and business.

Most of these men are devoted to the old home. This home has many cherished memories and in a material way it represents much valuable property. The taxable assets of a single chapter are, not infrequently, more valuable than the total endowment of some of our good colleges forty years ago. Nearly one thousand chapters own, or rent, and furnish seven hundred houses. These houses are the homes of eighteen thousand of our most promising young men for nine months of each year. In the last quarter of a century the membership has trebled and the number of chapter-houses has increased over fifty per cent.

Any organization that is wholly bad—as many of its enemies believe the fraternity to be—cannot flourish in this manner. "There is nothing that succeeds like success," and with this splendid growth behind the fraternity it is as idle for its enemies to talk of rooting it out, by legislation or otherwise, as it is idle to talk of rooting out the blades of grass in the Mississippi Valley. The fra-

ternity is as much a fixture in the university as the university itself is a fixture in the community. Its problems are the university's problems, for the most part, and the university's problems are its problems. Why not accept it, therefore, as a permanent factor in college life, study its problems sympathetically and scientifically, and make it in every case what it is in some cases—a power for good?

One of these problems which belong to both the university and the fraternity is the decline in scholarship. To prove that there has been a decline an effort was made to gather statistics at two points of time—1886 and 1906. The effort was not altogether successful, for while the figures for the later period were easily secured, those for the earlier were not easily procurable and not complete enough to be entirely reliable. But they do point to two conclusions with considerable certainty. The first is that *scholarship is declining and social life rising in the fraternities.*

The second is that *this change is going on much more rapidly in the West than in the East.*

The first tendency is shown by the fact that twenty years ago the five following college interests stood in the order here named:

• Scholarship.

Oratory and Debate.

Literary distinction.

Athletic honors.

Social mention.

(These five are taken because they stand out prominently in all the reports and records.)

The relative place that these interests now hold in the minds of fraternity men is quite reversed, as the following figures show:

Social distinction	308
Athletic honors	289
Literary distinction	153
Scholarship	124
Oratory and Debate	77

In other words, of the mention in college publications which fraternity men think it worth while to make of themselves and their achievements today, nearly 33 1-3 per cent. is social distinction and less than 13 per cent. is honors in scholarship.

Or to put it in another way, out of every 951 times that fraternity men deliberately call attention to their activities as things worthy of special consideration, 308 are social, 289 athletic, 153 literary, 124 scholarship and 77 public speaking.

The "mention" in these publications that was taken to indicate "scholarship" is Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, and special prizes and honorable mention in economics, history, language and in a few cases, mathematics.

It is not contended here that possession of Phi Beta Kappa is an unfailing indication of scholarship. By no means. It is frequently and truthfully remarked that the P. B. K. man is often a mere book-worm and is lost sight of promptly after Commencement. But it is contended that the men who stand well up in their classes are the ones who, as a rule, are obtaining the best mental discipline. And it is contended, further, that mental discipline is more essential today than ever before. The problems in legislation, in the legal profession, in engineering and other technical lines, call for trained minds.

Of course, if one takes the ground that mere getting and spending constitutes success in life then the above observations do not hold good, and it is to be feared that too many of our young men do take this ground. The "smart" fraternity man, especially, refers contemptuously to the student as a "shark" and a "grind," as though it were almost a disgrace to do one's work well. He sees that good scholars frequently earn but one hundred dollars a month while clever rascals with little or no education make millions. Why should he study? But this paper takes the higher ground that the college man, because of his peculiar advantages, owes something to somebody besides himself. He is not succeeding if he is merely taking advantage of the weaker members of society in order that he may gain the means with which to satisfy his appetites and passions. Such an ideal ought to be distinctly beneath the college man, and the fraternity has the best possible opportunity to impress this fact upon his mind.

The second tendency mentioned above, namely, that this change is taking place more rapidly in the West than in the East, is shown by the following figures:

	Eastern.	Western.
Social mention	106	202
Athletic honors	142	147
Scholarship	102	22
Literary distinction	71	76
Oratory and Debate	69	8

A possible explanation of this second tendency is found in the fact that the Eastern fraternity had well established traditions twenty years ago, when part of the statistics were gathered which

lead to the above conclusion, and these traditions demanded among other things good scholarship. Every chapter had a record to maintain whereas the Western chapter fell heir to no such legacy.

It ought to be mentioned at this point that interest in debate and oratory in Western universities is probably greater than ever before, but, as the figure 8 for the Western chapters shows, the honors are no longer going to fraternity men.

In the last twelve years but one fraternity man has represented the University of Minnesota in an intercollegiate oratorical contest, and but five in intercollegiate debate, although twenty-one such honors have been awarded in the former and eighty-one in the latter. Eighteen years ago the fraternity men were taking *all* the honors in this line.

It may be worth while to mention a single case in connection with scholarship—since it is now under discussion. The secretary's records show that but two fraternity men were admitted to Phi Beta Kappa in 1905 at the University of Minnesota and not one in 1906 or 1907, although a total of 44 men were so honored in the last three years. Two is 4.5 per cent of 44—not a large percentage of honors for the fraternity men to gather in, surely.

This is not because the fraternities at Minnesota have a poorer grade of men than other Western universities have. Exact figures are not at hand to probe this point, but I am confident that such is not the case. Nor is it because fraternity men have not the capacity for scholarship. As a rule, they have the advantage of brains, wealth (sometimes too much), and social polish when they come to the university.

They simply lack the desire for scholarship because we, the alumni, have failed to hold up before our younger brothers the fact that scholarship *is one* of the things for which a man comes to college.

Of course, we can pass the matter by and say complaisantly that "we do not care for Phi Beta Kappa. It is an empty honor anyhow. We are getting things of greater value." But will parents continue to believe us indefinitely? Will the public—whose good opinion we covet because we want its best young men—will the public believe us? Will it not think this is another case of "sour grapes"?

Whether we think it a wise or unwise policy to call attention to this fact we may be sure that it will not long escape notice by the ambitious young men who come to our universities. Such things have an unpleasant way of "leaking out." The safest way

for us is not to try to conceal a bit of damaging evidence, but admit it frankly and then promptly adopt a policy that will eliminate it.

Admitting that there has been a decline, it is important but difficult to name all the causes. Let us look for a moment at two or three.

It is believed by many who have studied this problem, and whose opinions are worthy of respect, that the decline in scholarship and consequent rise of lighter substitutes is due in part to the *absence of personal and daily contact between student and instructor*, and in part to the *unlimited introduction of electives and culture courses*.

The Briggs Report of Harvard clearly indicates this.

This absence of daily contact between student and instructor is due very largely to the unprecedented growth of American universities. The last quarter of a century has been pre-eminently a period of great university building. These institutions have become great machines—almost as soulless as the corporations—which have no time for individuals, ruthlessly crush those who cannot take care of themselves and allow the socially inclined to live a butterfly life.

Parents make a mistake who trust that the modern faculty stands *in loco parentis* as did the faculty of the small ecclesiastical college half a century ago. Its members are absorbed in research work, lectures to large numbers of students, and administrative detail. They would not if they could and they could not if they would exercise the constant care over the individual student that was practically guaranteed to parents who sent their sons to college in those early days.

These larger institutions have trebled and often quadrupled their numbers without increasing their teaching force in the same proportion. They lack the necessary funds.

Second among the causes mentioned above is the sudden adoption of the unlimited elective system and coincident with this the free introduction of the so-called "culture studies"—lecture courses in which the professor is expected to do all the studying and reciting and his students all the listening and criticizing.

There is an old-fashioned notion, pretty well exploded now, that the way to develop the mind is to apply it vigorously five or six hours every day, six days every week, and nine months every year during four years, to subjects that demand concentration—such as mathematics, Greek, Latin, physics and philosophy.

The new attitude toward study is admirably expressed by a motto which is said to be prominently displayed in the private rooms of nearly every student in a well-known girls' college in the East—"Don't let your college work interfere with your college life!" And again it is expressed by a remark which I recently overheard one student make to another, "These confounded studies take too much of a man's time!"—as though the chief business of the student were to amuse himself, and anything which stood in the way of this was an intolerable nuisance.

The modern idea seems to be that if a man is entertained by interesting lectures for three hours a day and spends the remainder of his time in class scraps and cane rushes; fraternity, class and intercollegiate games of foot-ball, base-ball, basket-ball, tennis, golf, hockey, bowling and curling; glee, mandolin, brass-band and other musical and dramatic clubs, cosmopolitan and metropolitan associations, and other "student interests" *ad infinitum*, and then with a pot of black coffee at his side and a wet towel around his head at the close of the semester, crams up for a week to "get by" his bothersome quizzes, he will come out with a well-trained mind, capable of solving the difficult problems of the most complex civilization the world has ever known.

To say the least, it does not seem quite orthodox to one trained in the old way.

Is it not possible that a third and contributory cause of the decline in scholarship is found in the modern chapter-house, which furnishes such a comfortable home-life among congenial spirits and offers such abundant opportunity for dissipation of time and energy?

At any rate we have a problem in the decline, and the question arises as to whether the modern fraternity, through its chapter-house system, can assist the university in solving it, for at least this one of the university's problems is the fraternity's problem.

To determine this the question was asked, in the circular letter referred to:

"What does the present-day fraternity need most in order to be of the greatest service to its members?" The answers are all worth perusal. We have space for but a few of them.

From presidents and deans:

"A return to the best traditions of the early days of fraternities and a recognition of other present-day responsibilities by themselves and the governing bodies of institutions."

"More breadth of view; less of the spirit of clique and exclusiveness."

"A quickening of the earlier literary interest; a larger sense of the primacy of college over fraternity interests—or rather of the dependence of fraternity interests on a wholesome college life."

"First, simplicity of living; second, the intellectual element thrust to the front in the weekly meetings of the chapter; third, a high sense of honor and moral ideals which would lead to the ejection of an unworthy member."

"Active interest and a sense of responsibility on the part of resident alumni. There is too much loafing in the chapter parlors; there is almost no serious conversation; the men as a whole do not study enough and have not serious ideals."

"Higher ideals of what constitutes manliness; a better and more serious notion for the effects of beer and tobacco on future effectiveness; a higher regard for the value of time; a rigid scholarship committee in the university which will not hesitate to send home all who do not do a man's work."

"Right kind of undergraduate headship to insure a healthy moral tone and to exalt ideals of work; friendly comradeship and oversight on the part of faculty and other alumni members; wise but vigilant supervision by the university authorities."

"Intelligent sympathy on the part of college officers, and close relations between active and graduate members."

"Attention of their alumni."

"Progress along the lines which mark its development for the last twenty-five years and a fuller realization that the prosperity of the fraternity is one with the institution in which it is situated."

"The effective influence of alumni members. Undergraduates yield to temptation to enjoy the 'house.' They need the stimulus of resident graduates and of earnest and scholarly upperclassmen."

"To be represented more generally in all departments of college life, by the best men, of course, in each kind of work."

"To keep more closely in touch with faculty affairs and support the best interests of college."

"To become more a part of the university."

From students:

"Better ideals. Fraternities are too often exclusively dancing and smoking clubs."

"More true, unselfish, good fellows and less of the men who make success pure and simple their aim."

"Strong men with old-fashioned ideals of college life and

work; less of the feeling of smartness and fast life of a fraternity; the inculcation of principles of purity and earnest purpose."

"Individuality of members; the fraternity is now too much of a mill through which all men are ground out after the same type."

"In general, a man's scholarship may deteriorate as a result of the chapter-house, but he gains something intangible, vastly more valuable."

"Better men—men of strong personality and firm principles. There is here too much effort to get good-fellowship and harmony at the expense of anything and everything else."

"A definite standard of excellence in all branches of college activity with a system of alumni and upperclassmen supervision to keep the undergraduate body as far as possible up to the standard set."

"More unity in national fraternity and more attention to ideals just now; we are becoming commonplace and losing all sense of dignity and high purpose."

"Strict adhesion to a policy embodying high ideals, cultivating friendship between all fraternity men; a policy disapproving of under-hand and base methods—which must weaken the men who permit such things; an aggressive policy of mental improvement to its members and the university or college, and the making the fraternity a greater factor for good in the development of men and of our national life."

"To be let alone."

Several things become apparent to one who reads all these responses. The fraternity chapter-house is a potent factor for good or for evil. Whether it develops into the one or the other depends upon how it is handled. The fact that the answers are so frequently diametrically opposed shows that conditions vary widely in different chapters of the same fraternity and proves that no man can safely judge a fraternity as a whole who knows but a single chapter in a single university.

The advantages pointed out and now being enjoyed in many chapter-houses by scores of young men leave no room for doubt as to the benefits, while, on the other hand, the frank statements of corresponding secretaries as to the dangers and disadvantages prove just as conclusively that the chapter-house may be a serious menace to the best interests of many young men.

Again, these open answers by young men who *know*, pointing out the dangers and defects of their own homes, show clearly that any one who attempts to solve this problem scientifically—without

any hobby to ride or any preconceived notion to carry out, who is willing to find the facts and apply the remedy—will have cordial co-operation. With few exceptions there is no attempt at evasion or concealment of conditions; the answers come like blows straight from the shoulder. It is evident that the chapters which are going wrong are not as a whole wedded to their weakness. Most of the men in them would welcome reform if it were brought about at the right time and in the right way.

The fact, then, that the chapter-house is a force for evil as well as for good ought to discourage no true reformer. The further fact that some chapters have gone wrong and have died a violent death in their own sins or have had their charters revoked is no valid argument against the fraternity system or the modern chapter-house. Every factor in civilization—the church not excepted—is open to the same criticism.

It is not contended here that the fraternity can accomplish the impossible, but that it can do in every chapter what it is now doing in the best. It can, for example—

1. Prevent a man of studious habits from becoming a mere grind, a bookworm, a recluse, by forcing him out into society.
2. It can prevent a man of strong social inclinations from wasting time to the detriment of his mental development.
3. It can tone up a boy of good mind but slovenly habits and tone down a dude and prevent him from becoming the laughing stock of sensible people.
4. It can prevent vulgar language, coarse manners and loafing in the chapter-house; and dishonesty and immorality everywhere as things unworthy a Greek-letter man.
5. It can hold in check a young man of strong appetites and passions until the danger point is passed—until he has developed sufficient strength of character to resist temptation.
6. It can reach down a helping hand to a hard-working, honest student who needs help and lift him up.
7. In short, it can keep constantly before its men the desirability of a well-rounded, symmetrical life.

It can do all these things and many more. In fact, what the well-organized, well-regulated fraternity can do with its men in four years is almost incredible to the outsider, because the outsider does not realize the tremendous hold that the fraternity gets upon its men. The boys are gathered together on the basis of similar tastes and ideals, when the rushing is properly done. Their constant association soon makes of them the closest friends. In a short time

they would infinitely rather disgrace themselves than their fraternity brothers and their organization. Many a boy, when he feels quite alone, unobserved and responsible to no one but himself—as he not infrequently does in a big university and a big city—will take risks that he would not think of taking when his fraternity brothers are involved. The danger of losing his best friends and the bitterness of a censure from an upperclassman whom he loves and admires are a sufficient check.

Such a fraternity receives into its ranks an undeveloped boy and sends forth, four years later, a man of poise, polish and not infrequently power.

But some one says this is an ideal—a condition impossible of attainment. Not at all. It now exists in the best chapters of the best fraternities. All that is contended here is that all the chapters can be made as good as the best.

Of those who expressed an opinion on the desirability of a return to ideals which demand better scholarship 81 per cent. agree that it is needed as a foundation upon which to rest culture and success in life, and they further agree that the reformation of the fraternity must come through the co-operation of the upperclassmen with the alumni, their friends, not through the legislators, the regents, trustees or faculty.

The movement to employ all the time of a general secretary, a traveling, paid official, is being watched with interest, and much is hoped for from him. His broad views resulting from intimate knowledge of local conditions in all the chapters will enable him to offer wise counsel. But one man cannot accomplish everything and the bulk of the work must be done for every chapter by the local, resident alumni. They are its natural guardians. Generally they own the chapter-house and its elaborate furnishings. They place these valuable equipments in the hands of their younger brothers.

What is more natural, what is more reasonable than that they should demand an accounting—not primarily in a material way, for this is relatively unimportant; but in an intellectual, moral, social, man-developing way? This is the plain duty of the alumni and it should be their privilege.

It is just as reprehensible for the better class of fraternity alumni to abandon their chapters and give them up to the "sporty element"—because these chapters do not exactly please them—as it is for the better citizens to abandon municipal government to professional politicians and ward-healers. There are enough good men

in every fraternity and in every municipality to do the right thing. But they must be active.

This duty of the alumnus, however, is a most delicate one and demands just the right man. He must love the fraternity. He must know its history and traditions. He must have a deep personal interest in the underclassman and feel that every boy has possibilities. He must be young enough to still remember how a freshman feels and looks at life, and he must distinguish intuitively between the foibles of youth and real vicious tendencies. He must wink at the one and suppress the other. By prompt and judicious action he must counteract the unwholesome influence of a man who is going wrong, and save the chapter at least—if not the individual—from the results of his folly. He must have and hold the love and admiration of the underclassmen or he is not the one for the place. And he must accomplish all this, for the most part, unobtrusively. Ironclad, coercive rules from the alumni will not be wise except in extreme cases. They will defeat their own purpose by creating the same feeling of distrust and dislike which existed between the preacher-professor and the students of our early ecclesiastical colleges.

Of course, the alumnus cannot accomplish all this without the sympathy and active assistance of the upperclassmen. But the better, stronger upperclassmen in every chapter are ready for this assistance.

Hear this one letter from the secretary of a strong chapter of the Delta Upsilon fraternity:

"The object of the fraternity, as I see it, is to take the place of the family and home life. The students have, upon entering college, come out from under the guiding influence of the parents or the paternal preparatory school. This lack of restraint and new-found liberty is likely to become license, and in the case of the weaker individuals to lead to ruin. It is at this point that the fraternity steps in. The influence of the fraternity cannot be good unless its atmosphere is wholesome. Its atmosphere cannot be wholesome unless the seniors are earnest, carefully trained men, with a keen sense of duty, who will dominate and sway the policy of the chapter. A prominent professor here told me that a word from a senior had a more salutary effect upon a freshman of the same fraternity than any amount of talk from one of the faculty, in a case where a freshman was 'down' in his work.

"I should say, therefore, that the greatest need of the present-day fraternity is a more careful organization of the chapter and

the system, so that the senior will be fitted to dominate the chapter and so that he will do so."

It is extremely desirable that just such young men as this one should be in charge of the active chapter. They would welcome the counsel and co-operation of the right kind of an alumnus, and the alumnus must offer this assistance lest even the strong undergraduate should weary in well-doing.

The alumnus must give this assistance or he must be prepared, twenty years hence when he visits the old home, to greet a weaker chapter than he meets today, for the tendency in all the fraternities is unmistakably toward waste of time, weaker scholarship and more society, "fussing" and other adjuncts.

Most fraternity men of the last generation remember with pride that the best men in college could be had by the fraternities for the asking. It is not universally so today. Already many strong young men are shunning them as organizations which will rob them of their honorable ambitions on the one hand, or cultivate in them a crop of habits that are of very questionable value, on the other.

The alumni can prevent all this and it is their duty to do so. Already they give valuable property and frequently more valuable time, and they have a right to expect every chapter of their fraternity to develop men who will preserve their traditions and honor their fraternity and their alma mater.

The public has a right to expect this much of the fraternity. Last year it gave \$399,688,910 for the education of the youth of this land. It sees the secondary schools pour into the chapter-houses the best blood and brains of the state. After four years it expects to see returned to every honorable calling in every community, strong men, molders of public opinion—public opinion, the controlling force in a democracy. No organization is worthy of support whose sole object is simply to protect itself and maintain its existence. The problems of society are so numerous and so complicated that both individuals and social organizations are in duty bound to enter the field determined to leave the world better than they found it. No organization has a right to ask for support unless it has some noble mission.

COMMENTS ON THE ABOVE ARTICLE.

FROM JAMES B. ANGELL, PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

No one familiar with the present condition of things in the fraternity houses can fail to realize that special effort is needed if the fraternities are to hold themselves up to the high reputation for

scholarship and character which they formerly had before fraternity houses were established. The great dangers obviously to the residents in those houses are—waste of time, substitution of social life for hard study, and, if the upperclassmen are not of a high moral strain, the lowering of the moral character of the members. I sincerely trust that your efforts may prove beneficial to the fraternities generally. I am convinced that as a rule there is need just now of strenuous effort on the part of the members who are right-minded to hold the fraternity life up to a higher level than in many cases we observe at the present time.

FROM ARTHUR T. HADLEY, PRESIDENT OF YALE UNIVERSITY.

I wish very much that I were able to contribute to the discussion which will be started by the exceedingly interesting article of Professor McDermott, but our experience at Yale has been rather too anomalous to admit of our contributing much. The fraternities at Yale in the academic department have not yet passed into the club-house stage. They have remained casual rather than fundamental elements in the organization of college life. In the scientific department, on the contrary, they have been in the club-house stage from the very beginning. Speaking broadly, I should say that morally the effect of the club life for the members of most of the Sheffield societies had been extremely good but that intellectually it had been rather unfavorable.

I suppose that the alumni could correct this state of things if they tried hard enough. But most of the alumni live far away, while the social opportunities and temptations of the club house are of the present. These temptations are all the more subtle because they do not come in the tangible form of temptation to drink—nearly all of our Yale societies are very good in this respect—but in the more intangible form of temptations to waste time.

FROM W. H. P. FAUNCE, DELTA U, PRESIDENT OF BROWN UNIVERSITY.

I have no short and easy method to propose for dealing with the chapter-house problem. On the contrary, only the long and difficult method of experiment can give us a solution. I heartily believe in the college fraternities of America. I believe that on the whole they make for character. There is no way in which a college faculty can so easily deal with a student who is lax in scholarship or conduct as by dealing with his fraternity. The group is usually sensitive to the disgrace of any one member.

But the chapter houses, while making for refinement of life, introduce serious problems of oversight. Can the college resign

all oversight to fraternity alumni, as a German university ignores the social and moral environment of its students? That can never be in the American college, whose aim is largely the provision of suitable environment. It is doubtful if any general rule of procedure can be outlined. But a general discussion will evoke suggestions and experience of great value to us all.

FROM PROF. ARTHUR R. PRIEST, PHI DELTA THETA, DEAN OF COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON.

College Fraternities are associations of college men who are interested as a rule in all that goes to make up college life. Any discussion of fraternities, therefore, that leaves out of consideration the tendencies of modern education will inevitably fail to get at the true explanation of the present ideals of fraternities.

In New England the fraternity men constitute 60 per cent. of the total college enrolment; in every other section they form less than 50 per cent. of the total, frequently much less than fifty. In the north central States, where their percentage runs lowest, they form approximately 20 per cent. Taking the United States as a whole, we are safe in asserting that fraternity men constitute not less than one-fourth of the total regular enrolment in the institutions where four-year fraternities exist.

Now whether this fourth of the student body be the upper or lower fourth matters not a great deal; the members of it will reflect the sentiments and ideals of the institution in which they are registered. In point of fact, however, the fraternities usually comprise the natural leaders in college and they are, therefore, more likely to typify the spirit of their institution than are the same number of non-fraternity men.

That a change in fraternity standards has taken place no student of the subject will deny. Has the chapter house been a contributing cause of this change, and if it has, to what extent has it contributed? Manifestly the mere fact that a number of men live together in one house cannot be assigned as a serious cause of the lowered scholarship. During the first two periods of fraternity history, pointed out by Professor McDermott, the men who constituted a given chapter frequently lived together in the form of a club; and in almost every case the men of any one chapter lived near each other. Furthermore, in the early history of the chapter-house movement in some of the New England colleges* the chapter

* Notably Wesleyan, of Connecticut.

house was known as the home of the "grinds," and the more frivolous, the fellows who were looking for a "good time," refused to live in the houses. Again, in colleges where the men still live in dormitories, and chapter houses have never been permitted, the fraternities show a decadence of scholarship; and in colleges where some of the chapters live in houses and some are still unhoused the differences in standards of scholarship are as often in favor of the housed chapters as against them. In other words, the chapter house does not seem to be even a concomitant with poor scholarship.

Nevertheless, I believe that the chapter house has added to the burdens of the undergraduate, and that it has been a positive detriment to the scholarship of individual members in the chapters. The business of conducting a successful rooming and boarding house cannot be carried on without a serious drain on the time and energy of some one. I admit that the gain is an experience not to be regarded lightly, but it is not a gain in scholarship, and just here is the trouble with present-day college and educational life. Too many such elements as the chapter house have entered into our complex education. Time was when Latin, Greek and mathematics held sway with but few competitors for the student's time and attention. The students as a body gave their first sanction to things intellectual. Now conditions have changed, the business enterprises conducted by the students in an institution registering eleven hundred young men and women frequently amount to thirty thousand dollars and more each year. Such enterprises include all forms of athletics and music, daily newspapers, comic newspapers, coöperative stores, balls, circuses, theatricals, debates and oratorical contests. This condition holds true in the high school as well as in the college, so that the boys and girls from the beginning are taught to develop school and college spirit about something extra-academic. Young men will sit on the bleachers two or three hours every afternoon for three months as a proof of college spirit, but no one has yet dared to assert that such conduct is proof of scholarship or in any direct way conducive to scholarship. I am a friend of proper athletics, but I think that we should be perfectly frank: athletics and outside activities generally have been overdone in American college life, and we are reaping the fruit of such excesses. To attribute the decadence in scholarship to the chapter house is to strain at the gnat while we swallow the camel.

As college men we should begin by reforming educational ideals. We should seek to have our student bodies honor scholarship and intellectual attainment equally with athletic prowess and good-fel-

lowship. This can be done in part by having magnetic teachers who are as much interested in men as in making names for themselves through publication or research. Such instructors can get near enough to their students to have a powerful influence on them; and such instructors, exerting that influence beyond the lecture room, will mold the lives of the young people intrusted to their care.

As a small part of the larger problem, the chapter house should receive proper attention. The business care of the house should be taken, so far as possible, by resident alumni. Supervision of the scholarship and conduct of the chapter should be had by the alumni and faculty working through the upper class delegations of the chapter itself. Every effort should be put forth to impress upon the chapter that it is not of more importance than is the university as a whole, that the life in the house should help toward the true ends of university training.

But, I repeat in conclusion, the fault lies in the ideals of our student bodies, of which the fraternities are only small parts.

FROM WM. L. DUDLEY, SIGMA CHI, PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY,
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY.

I have been much interested in reading the article by Professor McDermott on "The Chapter House and Its Effect on the Fraternity," which was sent to me by Mr. Newman Miller, editor of the *Sigma Chi Quarterly*, with the request that I write you my views on the subject. The article is a very strong and thoroughly sane discussion of the subject. It appeals to me not only as a fraternity man but also as a friend of young men. I have realized for a number of years that the tendency of active chapters was to drift slowly but surely away from the ideals of their fraternity and from the highest ideals of college life. I believe that the modern chapter house is, in a measure, responsible for it, but we must remember that the spirit of the times must bear its share.

The chapter house is a great institution for the good of the active man if it is properly managed, but it may become an instrument for great evil. It is too great an institution for the active chapter to handle unaided. Young men inexperienced in the world's affairs cannot be expected to properly manage it, and the alumni must bear a large part of the responsibility or it will fail of good purpose. The alumni should take an active interest in the management of the chapter house and also in the work of the active chapter generally. It is their duty to do so, and they alone can save the chapter and the fraternity, as a useful adjunct to college life.

Occasionally some active man may have the feeling that the alumni are interfering with the prerogatives of the active member, but this is not true, and he should be made to so understand it. The fraternity is a brotherhood of the alumni and of the active men, individually and collectively, and the rights of one are the rights of all. In my opinion, the alumni are the salvation of the fraternity, and unless they actively guide the chapters, deterioration will be the inevitable result. I believe every fraternity should have alumni employed as agents and inspectors whose business it shall be to visit each chapter once or twice a year for the purpose of emphasizing the ideals of the organization, advising the active men concerning the many perplexing problems which are constantly arising, and to study the problems which present themselves to the fraternity as a whole, a wise solution of many of them being essential to the welfare of the brotherhood.

FROM CARLTON H. HAYES, NATIONAL SECRETARY ALPHA CHI RHO.

I certainly take pleasure in expressing some of my opinions on a subject which has been brought forcibly to my attention during five years' service as National Secretary of Alpha Chi Rho and also, though from a different point of view, through my experience as an instructor in Columbia University. And it is needless for me to add that the subject should interest everyone who has the welfare either of the college or of the fraternity at heart.

At the outset let me say that I accept practically everything that Professor McDermott says. I do believe that there are dangers as well as benefits of student life in the chapter house, but that the former are outweighed by the latter. I do believe that scholarship is declining and social life rising in the universities, due (1) to the disproportionate attention devoted to athletics, (2) to the absence of personal daily contact between student and instructor, (3) to the lack of efficient faculty committees on curriculum and instruction (although I strongly dissent from Professor McDermott's implied definition of culture and his slighting remarks on the present-day university means for its attainment), and finally (4) to the misuse of chapter houses. The universities of the East, with which I am most familiar, are taking steps at the present time to reduce athletics to their proper position, to introduce tutorial or kindred systems of personal instruction, and to create efficient committees and advisors to superintend choice of electives and attendance on courses. I firmly believe that the fraternities must attend themselves to the chapter houses or suffer sad and serious consequences. There is

talk now among members of the faculty at Columbia of "regulating" the fraternities—"regulation" by neutrals, by outsiders, will not be pleasant, profitable or nice.

We fraternity men talk too much and do too little. * * * Let us devote our appeals chiefly to the graduates—it is with the *graduates* that the future of the chapter house rests. * * * Let us take definite practical steps toward eradicating the evils which we all admit exist. * * *

Every chapter (in Alpha Chi Rho) has a committee on scholarship, consisting usually of two underclassmen and one graduate—preferably a junior instructor at the college or university—whose duties are to keep a list of cuts or debars and a full record of term standing in every course, to counsel on choice of electives, and to supervise whatever tutoring may be necessary. Furthermore the members of this committee confer with the instructors each term on the work of every underclassman in the chapter.

Our graduate organization is intended to coöperate constantly with the undergraduate chapters. When a man leaves college he becomes a member *ipso facto* of his graduate chapter, and each graduate chapter elects not only a president and a secretary-treasurer to perform the routine duties usually pertaining to similar organizations but also a resident, who resides with the undergraduate chapter wherever practicable, and is its adviser, counsellor and special friend. He makes reports in addition to the regular undergraduate reports to the secretary-treasurer of the graduate chapter and to the national organization. Of course these residents have to be chosen with great care—they must know and love the fraternity well; they must have the confidence of the younger brothers; they must be resourceful, tactful, optimistic and yet firm. They have a wonderful opportunity, and although the system is as yet hardly more than in embryo with us, we nevertheless have the right to expect, I believe, that it will give us great and good results.

And even this graduate work will amount to little in Alpha Chi Rho or in any other fraternity if ideals are laughed at or lost. It is quite the thing nowadays to scoff at religion, morality, and principles of conduct; people prefer to substitute for them a blind and pleasant opportunism. The university and college have now usually made this substitution and our younger brothers who are divorced from home and in large measure from its influences, who are not taught principles of conduct or ethics by their instructors, who scorn—and often justly—such religious adjuncts as the Y. M. C. A., these younger brothers are left to build ideals in their most impres-

sionable years from their student associates alone. That means the college fraternity and implies its most important mission. Our younger brothers must have ideals; they must be taught that study and culture are valuable, that religion is not self-condemned, that time is not to be wasted, that honesty and temperance are virtues and not drawbacks, that the social evil is an evil.

One other thought I should like to leave with you. I believe there is too much false modesty among the fraternities. Why should we stand on etiquette if we know positively that a certain chapter of a certain fraternity is corrupt, that it is inculcating vice and bringing reproach on our whole institution? Why should we not call it by name, publish it in all our magazines and create such a hubbub that the national organization of that fraternity will take notice and be forced or shamed into remedying the evils? I know now of a certain chapter at Columbia which holds a drunken meeting every week, which is said to entertain street women now and then, and whose daily table is the place for continuous obscene jests. The good chapters and the bad chapters have occasioned the different estimates of the benefits and dangers of the chapter house to which Professor McDermott has so well called our attention. We need publicity.

FROM JOHN H. DEWITT, PRESIDENT OF PHI DELTA THETA.

The problem of attaining the ideal in student life—a desirable life in a chapter house—involves nearly all the essentials to the perfect development of the fraternity. It is a matter of the proper conception of the true objects of the fraternity and placing the right values upon many things in college and fraternity life. The fraternity exists for pleasure, sympathy and mutual improvement. It is intended to develop the gentleman and especially the man. It is intended to develop every good work which the college does for the student. It should never do anything for the student which is contrary to the serious purposes for which he comes to college; and, on the other hand, it should do for him many useful and wholesome things which the college cannot undertake to do.

Fraternity life is yet immature and the system is yet imperfect, because its possibilities have not yet been understood by many members of the fraternities and by many who are in charge of the institutions in which they exist. Whenever the college authorities will properly employ the fraternities as the handmaids of their administration, and whenever the fraternity men will endeavor to make of their chapter life a reasonable substitute for home and a mutual in-

centive to development in manhood, then the system will have eliminated nearly all legitimate basis of criticism. Certainly, if this status could be reached, there would be little, if any, opposition to fraternities anywhere. If it is possible of realization, then it is worth striving for with all our earnestness and determination, for the end attainable is important and inspiring enough to enlist the efforts of any man.

In judging of the chapter house and its effect on the fraternity, we must be careful not to mistake the causes of some evils. If there is dissipation or waste of time or snobbishness or other misconduct, it may possibly not be due merely to this association, as it is easy to conclude that it is; but it may be a manifestation of unworthy traits or of evil associations that existed previous to college days. These objectionable qualities or habits may not justly be ascribable to the present environment, but they will be very much accentuated by bad tone and loose restrictions in the chapter house, just as they will grow less in a high moral atmosphere and under the proper supervision by alumni and upperclassmen.

This brings us to the fundamental proposition that, just as the moral tone and the culture of the home depends upon individual character, so does that of the chapter house. Every fraternity should endeavor unceasingly to have each of its chapters deny membership to those who do not possess good moral character and a proper sense of values in life. It should insist everywhere upon the initiation only of young men who have come to college with some serious purpose, and this should be its very *esprit de corps*. The fraternity that will lower the standard of morals or scholarship or manhood for the sake of gaining popularity or wealth, even though it may help to relieve some local financial strain, is horribly unworthy of its professed ideals and deserves little respect. The fraternities will never justify themselves when they do not prove that they are striving to develop a strong manhood by insisting on the simple virtues and a serious purpose as requisites for membership. There should be no difference as to this among the chapters constituting any given organization. It should be emphasized and reiterated as the basic ideal, put everywhere in operation, and all the force and power of the executive and administrative agencies should be exerted to have this policy everywhere abound. Whenever the snob, the idler, the dissipated and the empty-headed irresponsible will be denied membership under all circumstances, then this chapter-house question will be much less difficult. This policy will be successful if the fraternities will in all their conventions and through their offi-

cers resolutely seek to put it into effect. A close supervision of each chapter as well as supervision of individuals in the chapter is very necessary.

Whether the members of a chapter, or any of them, were originally possessed of unworthy traits or habits that thrive with the association, or they have acquired them after entering college, two things are absolutely necessary:

First. Chapter houses must not be extravagantly maintained. They should not be acquired by incurring an enormous debt which the chapters and their alumni cannot reasonably undertake to pay; and they should not be so sumptuous that their occupants will live in a style very disproportionate to their means. If this is not regulated by the college authorities it should at least be closely regulated by the chapters, their alumni and the officers of the fraternity supervising the chapters.

Second. Life in a chapter house and the college work of each member of the chapter should be under close supervision. This supervision should come from within the fraternity. The practice of self-regulation and self-restraint and a mutual stimulation will go farther than anything else toward developing the man and the gentleman. This is also the spirit of true brotherhood put into practice. Competent and influential upperclassmen should carefully supervise the younger members, and the management of the house should be in part by the alumni. Every chapter house should be governed by a set of sensible and reasonable rules which should be enforced as a part of this supervision.

FROM E. P. LYON, WORTHY GRAND CHIEF, ALPHA TAU OMEGA.

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Now, as to remedies which may be applied: I will state that I have for two years been laboring on this same problem in connection with my work in the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity. The most important step which I have taken is one which Prof. McDermott emphasizes, and which in the end is bound to produce the best results, although perhaps for a time the results seem meager and intangible. I mean the creation of a different sentiment and spirit among the undergraduates in regard to this matter, and the revival in them of the idea that scholarship should be the principal aim of the student in college. I have attempted to arouse this spirit by means of circular letters to all the chapters, by addresses at banquets and other fraternity meetings and by urging prominent members of the fraternity on all occasions to speak in favor of higher

scholarship. I think a great deal has been effected through our province chiefs in this direction.

In addition, I have instituted several minor methods of directing the attention of the men in the chapters towards scholarly attainments. I have prepared a form of honorary certificate, which is granted to every Alpha Tau who on graduating from college takes distinguished rank in scholarship, oratory or debate, or who is elected to Phi Beta Kappa or to any of the other honorary societies. The winners of these certificates are mentioned in my circular letters to the chapters and in the fraternity's journal. I have also instituted a semi-annual report concerning scholarship, which each chapter is required to make through the province chief to me. This report contains the names of all undergraduates, who during the previous semester have been conditioned or who have failed in any subject. The province chiefs and myself then do all we can to imbue the delinquents with the idea that they must do better.

FROM WALTER J. SEARS, GRAND HISTORIAN OF SIGMA NU.

* * * * *

The highest type is the American home, and I make bold to exalt it before every Greek letter society as the standard and the ideal by which every chapter house ought to be judged and measured. The American home is and has ever been something more than a club house. The best qualities of the club, its freedom and frankness, its fellowship of congenial spirits, the home has all these; but it has what the club can never have, it has at its center the truth of all social human effort, the active love and conscience of the family. This is something more than a fellowship; it is a communion, whose first obligation is service and whose ultimate purpose is character. How is this high ideal to be realized, do you ask? How is it possible even to approximate it among a company of young men, free from all paternal restraint, responsive to the natural impulsiveness of youth, and not careful to discriminate between a wholesome college spirit and a vulgar Hooliganism?

I reply: Give these young men the proper leadership; not the leadership of the society exquisite or the roisterer or the spendthrift; not the leadership of the club, but the leadership of the home; not the leadership of a spoiled boy, but the leadership of the good man; not the leadership of ignorance or prejudice or evil or snobbery, but the leadership of culture and democracy, morality and brotherhood—a culture that is genuine but not exclusive; a democ-

racy that is brave but not brutal; a morality that is upright but not pious; a brotherhood that is tender but not sentimental.

The typical home is strong in its development of two distinctly different but vitally important qualities of leadership. One concerns itself with the material welfare of the household; the other with the spiritual welfare. So the first duty of the chapter house is to find for itself the proper leadership for its business affairs; its second, to find the proper leadership for its spiritual affairs.

Like the good house-builder and provider, it will set about conserving its material well-being. * * * There can be no moral solvency without financial solvency, and the chapter house that seeks to realize a high ideal of manhood must rest it upon the law of prudence and thrift, of commercial honor and rectitude. Therefore, each house should begin its life by placing its material welfare in good hands. There should be a house manager, a house steward and a committee on audit and finance. * * *

The love and conscience, the law and authority of the home must find expression in the chapter house. These will stand for its wise discipline and government representing at once its sanity and its respectability. To these essential requirements will be added the refinement of cultured men; and uniting all will be found the kindly and sympathetic fellowship of congenial spirits.

How shall this ideal of the chapter house, which is the ideal of the American home, be broadly and richly realized in all our societies? * * *

There are several excellent plans now in operation or being considered. * * * One plan contemplates the founding of scholarships, open to members of the fraternity, the recipient to live at the chapter house during his college course, and to act as the proctor or leader of the house.

For the last-named plan I have great hopes, provided our men could be induced to endow these scholarships as richly as they have given of their substance to build the chapter houses. And I hold that they ought to give even more richly, because I hold that any sort of a chapter house, great or small, is a mighty poor investment if its moral and spiritual standards of life and conduct are low or ignoble. What can it profit a college man if he live in a palace and lose his own soul? I believe the time is coming, if it is not already here, when our societies will be judged, not by the size and value of their chapter houses, but by the character of the men produced in them.

To say this is to say what all Greek-letter men are coming to

realize, that all our fraternity groups are beginning to respond to the infusing and unlifting spirit of a new ideal. It is this—a conviction in the heart of every fraternity man that his own society must be something more than an exclusive social club, something more than a clannish secret order, something more even than a selfish brotherhood; a growing sense of their high and important place in the educational system; a consciousness that they are a vital co-ordinate and co-related part of it, being a permanent force for its spiritual endowment; in short, an American institution for the training, aye more, for the making of strong, manly and capable men.

The higher and nobler conception of Hellenic duty lays upon every group these well-settled demands:

(1) That every group shall provide clean and wholesome fellowshipship.

(2) An environment that will be uplifting to the moral and spiritual nature, and that will produce men of character as well as men of scholarship.

(3) To win and retain the esteem of the college community, the student body and the faculty.

(4) To win and retain the loving interest of the alumni, of all the men who have lived the chapter-house life.

The men of all societies are coming to see that the chapter house must be vitalized and consecrated as the central point of energy and dynamics in the social development of the fraternity life. More and more our men are coming to believe that these houses should be not only ornate in the graces of design but rich in the achievements of manhood. More and more our men, old and young, are coming to realize that the house and the alumni, the home and the life, the faith and the leadership, the law and the spirit, the ideal and its development, the young man and the old man—these are one—these must be one in the development of our fraternity men.

FROM RALPH S. KENT, SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON.

Professor McDermott concludes from his investigations that the standard of scholarship among fraternity men has been lowered with the growth of chapter houses, and while he does not directly charge that the one is the effect of the other, he, nevertheless, creates that inference. The real question, however, which you ask me to deal with and to answer, if possible, is—"In what way can the chapter house be made to increase the scholarship of fraternity men so that they will more nearly approach the ideal?"

In dealing with this problem certain facts must be borne in mind. First, that there has been a growth in the classes of students now acquiring a so-called college education, and that scholarship has no certain, definite standard. Also, that the ability to do and be is entirely a question of individuality. So scholarship is a question of individuality. Environment, of course, has an influence, yet the individual is the final test, for it is he who must always overcome environment.

I cannot believe that the chapter house is in any way responsible for any lack of scholarship that may exist. During the last twenty or thirty years the class of college students has changed with the spirit of the times. Then students went to college to study and fit themselves for professions. Very few went to fit themselves for a business career. Today, however, many future business men are in college merely for the education obtained from contact with men. Such an education is not given credit in the technical term "scholarship." Furthermore, owing to the very fact that success is now, rightly or wrongly, largely measured in dollars, many young men feel that text-books do not hold the secret of success, and that *cum magna laude* is not worth while for a business career. One of my acquaintances in college who intended to enter his father's factory to learn the business from the bottom up put it this way: "What good will a bunch of Greek do me when old Dan Maloney tells me to 'strip the uppers from that pile of calves'? A little philosophy will do me more good." Consequently he registered in the "cinch" course.

Another change which has occurred in the class of students is due to the fact that many parents send their sons to college today because it is *the* thing to do. Such students do not have a clear conception of "Why are we here?" Mother and sister want them to go and expect them to make Sigma Doodle Psi, so that sister can come to the Junior Prom house party and have a "darling of a time." With such ambitions back of him, it is not surprising that boy does not achieve prominence in scholarship. Yet it is safe to say that most of this class get into a fraternity, and of course affect the scholarship of the whole. In such cases the problem seems to be, how can the fraternity be made a power in correcting home training?

The following instances briefly illustrate my point that scholarship is a matter of individuals. Similar ones can be recalled by any observing college man, for these are only three that have come within my own experience.

Two men of the same class joined the same fraternity and lived throughout their college course in its chapter house. One of them played football, was a candidate for the track team two years, was a substitute for the crew another year, was a member of two or three social clubs and in his senior year was elected to both Sigma Xi and Phi Beta Kappa. The other did nothing and failed to graduate. In another house seven men out of one class were dropped or "busted" after final examination. The next year not a one was "busted" from that house. In still another chapter house lived a man who had played football every season, making the 'Varsity team, was on several oratorical stages in college, an inter-collegiate debater, actively engaged in his fraternity's affairs, belonged to clubs and honorary societies, was a class-day orator, an active member of several student committees, and with all that was elected to Phi Beta Kappa at the close of his college course. A classmate of his living in the same house failed to graduate. Neither of these men was dissipated. It was simply a case of individuality.

These observations have convinced me that if the fraternity man is in college with a serious purpose and a definite aim in life, there can be no more broadening, helpful, stimulating influence surrounding him than arises from the daily life and contact with his brothers in the chapter house. The young fellow in college merely for the sake of being in college will usually make a worse failure outside of the fraternity than he would inside. An idle purpose creates only an idle man.

With these considerations in mind, you can much more readily appreciate the suggestions which I have to offer for making the fraternity an active power in developing the freshman into a cultured, polished, self-reliant, educated gentleman, which to my mind is the real purpose of a fraternity and the real problem before the Greek world. To this end three things are essential: First, the right kind of man to start with; second, a proper point of view for each initiate; and third, interested and active alumni who have a genuine love for their mother chapter.

Some may say that the first essential is all-sufficing and that the great difficulty is in getting the right kind of man. * * * Where many fraternities make mistakes is in endeavoring to pledge star prep-school men, regardless of their personality. * * * The man who will reflect the greatest glory upon the fraternity * * * is the one who is modest, unassuming, of good morals and capable of a healthy ambition to make his life worth while to himself and to others in this world. I do not wish to be understood as urging the

selection of only goody-goody boys ,or anything of that kind, but the man must be congenial, he must be temperate, of clean habits, capable of appreciating the best in men while overlooking their weaknesses, and possessed of a purpose to obtain some definite advantage from his college course. Such a man is fertile soil for fraternity ideals.

Second. Each initiate should have a proper point of view. * * * When the invitation is extended, he should be given a correct statement of what the fraternity stands for. Its aims and ideals should be set before him, so that he will get rid of any false notions which he may have acquired from friends or enemies of fraternity life. * * * The candidate should also be made to realize that if he does join he will be expected to add his share of good to the general welfare. He should understand that his fraternity cannot carry "dead wood" in any branch of college life, and that, on the other hand, he will receive that kind of assistance which does not destroy self-reliance and independence, but creates and builds it up. He should be made to appreciate that he is being offered at the very beginning of his college life an opportunity to have developed the best that is in him, but that success depends very largely upon how much he yields himself to good influences.

* * * * *

It likewise often happens that the glories and advantages of the fraternity are set forth before the candidate in such glowing and brilliant terms that he receives a rude shock upon entering for the first time the intimate knowledge of a fraternity meeting. As a result his hopes are blasted, his enthusiasm dampened, and he feels as if he had purchased a gold brick. It behooves a fraternity, therefore, to be perfectly honest and perfectly truthful in the statements it makes in extending its invitation.

* * * * *

Then comes the third essential: The duty of the faithful alumnus. This poor individual has been told so often what his duties are that I shall not add to his burdens. Instead of preaching to the alumnus it would seem that more could be done by actually doing things for him. Seek his interest and advice, while catering to his pleasure and happiness. Hold his interest by the methods used to gain it. At all times the chapter should be as considerate of an alumnus as if he were a likely "sub-fresh."

FROM GUY T. VISKISKKI, EDITOR OF THE KAPPA SIGMA CADUCEUS.

If I have read aright the article on "The Chapter House and Its Effect on the Fraternity," its author's chief concern is about

scholarship, and he bases his contention that fraternity scholarship has deteriorated on this fact—that an examination of various and sundry chapter letters revealed that “out of every 951 times that fraternity men deliberately call attention to their activities as things worthy of special consideration, 308 are social, 289 athletic, 153 literary, 124 scholarship and 77 public speaking.”

To the author's mind, this proves bad scholarship. To my way of thinking, this proves nothing of the sort. I know of a man who went through college with only one mark below a “first”—that is, ninety per cent.—and was looked upon generally as one of the best scholars of his period at his alma mater. I know of plenty of men who have done splendid work in the classroom—been the pride of their professors, and all that. Were these men—fraternity men all—mentioned in their chapter letters for their performance of an ordinary duty? No. Yet they were talked of in the letters when they ran third in the half-mile, were members of some prom committee, or went out with the football squad, that the first team might have something more or less beefy to go up against.

Why were they mentioned then? Simply because what they did in athletics, or in a social way, was out of the ordinary—was news, in the accepted sense of the word. But what they did in the classroom was not news; it was an every-day occurrence, something expected and done as a matter of course, and, hence, clearly not news. News is the chronicling of phenomena, and the college world rightly holds that it is not phenomenal to do good work in the classroom. When this does become phenomenal the colleges will close up shop. A good scholar is like a good man—he never breaks into print. Unless, of course, the good scholar becomes so phenomenally good as to rake in Phi Beta Kappa and other high scholarship honors; or the good man becomes so excessively good that he is “translated” of his very purity. These are phenomena—and news.

FROM STEPHEN HART, DELTA CHI.

* * * * *

If scholarship and oratory and debate have yielded first and second places to social standing and athletics and have themselves been relegated to a lower position in the estimation of fraternity men, it seems to me that this change, in so far as changes have actually occurred, has been brought about in part and very largely by causes other than chapter-house life. I should say that the men who entered college twenty or thirty years ago were on the whole rather less able financially to indulge in social pleasures. They came

to college primarily to get an education; they felt that they had only a limited amount either of time or money that they could spend in college, and they consequently applied themselves more strictly to study. As the country has become more prosperous, the men coming up to college have come better able to spend their money in social and athletic recreation, and they have done so to a greater extent. That society and athletics may be too much indulged in to the detriment of sound scholarship I have no doubt, and I fear this has been the case in some instances, but not to an alarming extent.

* * * * *

There are some exceptions, but in most instances I believe the alumni and the upperclassmen in fraternities do, as a matter of fact, assume the responsibility of exercising over the chapter and underclassmen such an influence as is for their good. They have their house rules fixing the hours of study and recreation and prohibiting certain graver abuses. These are enforced sometimes by the suspension or expulsion of refractory members, but more often by the example or admonition of fellow-fraternity men whose good will and good opinion are a sufficiently strong incentive to right doing.

FROM MISS INA FIRKINS, DELTA GAMMA.

In presenting Mr. McDermott's paper on "The Chapter House and its Effect on the Fraternity" to the Greek press, the editor of the Delta Upsilon *Quarterly* evidently wishes to arouse the fraternity world to decisive action. The discussion will not bring about any sudden and beautiful reform in chapter houses, but it is a good subject to keep before the minds of the undergraduates.

That conditions in chapter houses can be and ought to be improved there is no disputing, but we do not altogether agree with the writer as to his facts, or the causes he adduces, or the remedies he suggests. In his letter to the editor, Mr. McDermott says that "it grieves him to see many of our strongest, ablest, cleanest, all-round young men *turn down* the fraternities because they think them effeminating." That statement cannot be sustained by facts. It is true that many students who develop into strong and able men are not fraternity members, but it is in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred not because they have "turned down" the fraternities but because they have not been asked to join them; the reason that they have not been invited to membership is the somewhat discreditable, although inevitable, one that fraternities do not deal with raw material. It is undeniable that personal attractiveness and good

fellowship are the qualities for which members are selected in fraternities. That the possession of these qualities is not incompatible with force of character and sterling worth makes the strength of the Greek-letter societies.

Mr. McDermott regrets that in the last twenty years the scholarly ideal among fraternity men has given place to one less worthy, and quotes figures to prove his statement. No doubt the figures are correct, but statistics have a way of proving a great many things that are not true. Within the last quarter of a century there has been a great change in academic conditions. When our fathers were young, for a youth to go to college was rather an extraordinary thing; unless a man anticipated a professional career for his son, he did not send him to college. Today a college education is considered a business asset, and young men and women continue their studies from the high school through the college with as little consideration of the value of the training as the child goes from the kindergarten to the primary school. Obviously our institutions must be flooded with less serious, less prepared, less capable students than the elder generation knew. There are only a few people in any community with the gift for real scholarship, but it is a talent that cannot be hidden, and every university and college cherishes a few choice spirits of this type. The proportion of scholars to the number of students is no doubt less, but their number is as great as ever. If they have the superficial graces also, they become fraternity members; if they lack them, their mere scholarship is not a reason for their reception into a group of friends whose first requirement is comradeship.

The age is a practical one; some of us may regret this fact, but we must accept it, and the thing for us to do is not to attempt a reversion to past conditions, but to so adapt training to present conditions that we shall be able to foster the humanities without jeopardizing the utilities. The college world is no longer a cloistered precinct, it is an integral part of the life of the community. Thirty years ago the members of the college faculties were selected groups of men, who by taste and custom kept away from the highway of life; today they rub shoulders with the crowd and are active workers in politics and civic life. The old order has changed and given place to new.

The definite evils of chapter-house life Mr. McDermott has very thoroughly investigated, also their advantages, and leaves us just about where we started, rather uncertain as to whether they make for good or evil. The remedy for the defects, he suggests, lies with

the alumni. Probably the alumni could correct most of the trouble if they would—but they won't. It is only a few of the younger and less occupied alumni who are willing to give more time than it takes to write an occasional check to their fraternities. The salvation must come through the active chapters, whose interest in the matter is personal and keen. Our hope is in the upperclassmen. Juniors and seniors can exert a much greater influence on the freshmen than parents or alumni. With alumni sentiment, if not activity, behind them, the upperclassmen have the solution of the difficulty in their own hands. To foster the proper spirit of responsibility among them is the work of the fraternity conventions, of the journals, of the college faculties. Youth is strong to do what it desires because its faith is great.

FROM MISS CHARLOTTE H. WALKER, EDITOR OF KAPPA ALPHA THETA.

The undue prominence given at present to social distinction, and the lack of vital interest in scholarship on the part of our fraternity undergraduates are but the natural reflection of the spirit of our times, and in particular of our alumni. As long as the chief efforts of our alumni are directed toward making Alpha Beta's lounging room more elegant in its appointments than that of Alpha Delta, so long will our undergraduates be chiefly interested in social rivalry. This we must expect until our alumni come to a realizing sense that it is the quality of the men graduated, not the cost of the house in which they live, which determines the superiority of one fraternity over another.

Physical ease does not stimulate mental alertness. When our alumni see that the luxuries, which their pride and generosity provide for the college youth of today, are a mere temptation to waste of time; when our fraternity houses become in reality a substitute for natural home life instead of pretentious clubs, then only may we expect a return to good scholarship.

But we need also a better mutual understanding between the fraternal organizations and the college faculties. On the university faculties, at least, there are usually found several representatives of each fraternity. In such cases the fraternities should each elect an alumnus member of the faculty who would be responsible alike to the faculty and the fraternity for the scholarship of its members. Such an alumnus could speak with authority, but also with sympathetic understanding for the undergraduate. Thus the acknowledged duty of our alumni, *i. e.*, to care for the scholarship of

our undergraduates, would no longer be left to the haphazard oversight of chance alumni visitors and residents. It would become the duty of one man, elected for the purpose, and suited therefor by his special interest in, and knowledge of, the situation.

FROM MRS. A. R. COOKE, GAMMA PHI BETA.

Professor McDermott's article goes clearly to the root of the matter and voices the feelings I have had for a good while. * * * Let the chapter understand that the alumni consider it a disgrace to flunk, without exceptionally good reasons for so doing. Scholarship is not everything; many things go to the making of an all-around man. Teach the chapter to be proud of itself for its worth, for the place it holds in its fraternity. * * * This is the work of the alumni, primarily. If they can teach and impress a few men in the chapter, these can influence the others. If the chapter can be made what it should be, the house itself ought to give no trouble.

EDITORIALS

The nineteenth biennial convention of Kappa Alpha Theta will be held June 29 and 30, and July 1 and 2, at the Chicago Beach Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

Those who attended the 1907 convention which was held at the same place, will not need to be urged to attend this convention. They will come without urging. To our other members we can only say *Come*. Share in the good times we enjoyed in 1907. A complete program of the convention will be given in the May issue.

Again it is our privilege to welcome a new chapter, Alpha Mu, established at the University of Missouri February 12. The girls of this group had been organized as a local sorority, Delta Psi, for three years during which time they have been constantly petitioning Kappa Alpha Theta for a charter. The University of Missouri has been rapidly forging to a place in the front rank of state universities. There are 550 women students in the university, while but two women's national fraternities have heretofore been established.

Delta Psi as a local society won a position on an equal footing with these two nationals, while its members obtained individually the hearty approval of their instructors. This was shown by the cordial letters of recommendation for Delta Psi from members of the faculty, and especially by the interest of Miss Mary Bidwell Breed, the Dean of Women, who urged that the field for women's fraternities at the University of Missouri was large, and by no means monopolized by the chapters heretofore established there, and that the personnel and position of Delta Psi was one of which Kappa Alpha Theta might well be proud.

The year 1908-1909 has been a notable one for Kappa Alpha Theta in the establishment of *alumnæ* chapters. In our last issue we announced the foundation of Omicron *Alumnæ* at Seattle, Washington, and the organization of petitioning groups at Topeka, Kansas, and Denver, Colorado. These groups have now received charters as Pi *Alumnæ* and Rho *Alumnæ* respectively. In addition Theta *Alumnæ* has been re-established at Philadelphia with twenty-three charter members. This development of *alumnæ* chapters is now the fraternity's greatest need. And upon our *alumnæ* alone the responsibility rests.

Expansion is one of the most important problems of every fraternity, and this expansion has two entirely different phases, one not less important than the other. First we must deal with the problem of external growth. Of the many groups constantly applying for charters, which shall be chosen? In what part of the country shall our growth be extended? How many new chapters is it wise to install? The answer to these questions lies first with the council, secondly with the active chapters. Each group is carefully considered and twice inspected by our national officers, who must be convinced that the personnel of the group is such that a high academic standard will be maintained, that the members are actively interested in the many phases of college

life; that they have those social qualities which are needful in gaining and retaining friendships of the highest order. In other words each individual in an applying group must be judged by our officers, by those standards by which our chapters judge new girls.

Secondly, our officers must investigate the college in which the applying group is located. We must be assured that its academic standard is high; that its resources are sufficient to assure its prosperity; that it will have a constant, not a spasmodic growth; that its student body is of high grade. When our inspectors have become convinced that the group applying, and the college in which the group is located are both of a type desirable to Kappa Alpha Theta there is still a third question to be answered, perhaps the most difficult of all. This is the question of *when* to install a chapter. Every group which receives a charter must be willing to prove its worth in patient and faithful apprenticeship. It must be only a local which has conclusively proved its strength to which we will grant a charter. But there is great danger that we may test its strength too far. We must not keep our applying groups waiting so long as to give to other fraternity chapters opportunity to outstrip them in the race for leadership.

Upon the Council primarily, and upon the active chapters secondarily, rests the responsibility of decision of these questions. The initiative however comes always from the applying group, and many applications are continually before us.

In the no less important matter of *alumnæ* extension however, the responsibility rests neither upon the Council nor upon the active chapters, but wholly upon our *alumnæ*. A brief inspection of the geographical lists in the new catalogue shows a score of cities, San Francisco, Providence, Washington, D. C., Detroit, Madison, Milwaukee, and Lincoln among the number, where we have strong bodies of *alumnæ* members who should be organized as *alumnæ* chapters without delay. The average undergraduate who has

never attended a convention, leaves college with but a vague conception of her national fraternity. Other chapters are mere names to her. Unconsciously her fraternity means to her, her own chapter. She is as satisfied with its limitations as she is with its strength. Her first opportunity for broader knowledge and appreciation comes with membership in an *alumnæ* chapter. The contact with members of other chapters is especially good for the girl who has been a little conceited over her own chapter—as who has not? Such a girl needs membership in an *alumnæ* chapter and you *alumnæ* who have long been out of college, need the fresh young enthusiast.

Each *alumnæ* chapter has its own special *raison d'être*. Some are doing fine helpful work among Thetas, strangers in a strange land; others are working for the scholarship; some are bound together to give organized help to the nearest active chapter, while others are purely social in character. But each chapter, no matter what its special mission, stands for the continuance of old friendships, the making of new. Renew your college days, you “old girls,” and show our undergraduates that to you and to us all, fraternity work, its friendships are still worth while.

And you *alumnæ* who live near a chapter but are “too busy” to join, what has become of your youthful zeal? Don’t stand outside your *alumnæ* chapter. Get in and work. The *alumnæ* chapter needs the girls of every locality. Surely you can give up a few hours once a month to its meetings. If you do, you will soon find you needed the chapter and it will be no longer from a sense of duty that you go to its meetings. There is a niche for each member, and when once that niche is found no one ever wants to stay away.

And this reminds us, can the *alumnæ* chapters not devise some method of getting their full membership on their books early in the year? Almost every week we receive a card from some secretary, “Mrs. — has just joined our *alumnæ* chapter again. She could not attend the earlier

meetings but would like to have the back numbers of the Journal to which she is entitled." But the issues requested have usually given out and the member who joins late, but meant all the time to come in, can have only the last issue for the year. This is annoying to her, and is equally so to the editor. Can not the members of most of the *alumnæ* chapters be considered permanent members, until they formally withdraw their names? The editor could thus gauge more accurately the number of Journals which should be printed, and the *alumnæ* members would not be annoyed at not receiving their Journals on time, or going without them altogether. This plan of permanent membership holds with most clubs, and the annual dues of our *alumnæ* chapters are so small that they should be easily collected in case a member neglects to withdraw upon moving away or discontinuing membership.

Where the membership is composed of a floating population can the secretary not ascertain in the spring, which members are intending to continue their membership during the following year?

We are indebted to the Delta Upsilon Quarterly for Professor McDermott's article upon Chapter Houses, and the accompanying symposium on the same subject. We hope that the entire article will be read by every member of the fraternity, and we suggest that it be read and discussed in a chapter meeting.

While many of the evils of the chapter houses discussed by Professor McDermott apply only to men's fraternities, their feminine counterparts are suggested as we read. Two of the chief evils, *i. e.*, a tendency toward clannishness and a temptation to waste of time, are certainly not confined to the men's houses. That these evils should be faced honestly and a remedy sought is indisputable. The tendency to too great luxury, is not yet a fault in women's chapter houses, for the women's fraternities have not yet been able to afford more than the necessities. Let us keep our simplicity, and guard against snobbery.

That there are indications of healthful life too in fraternity houses is shown by the papers on that subject read at the Religious Educational Association, a résumé of which we are glad to present in this same issue. That the chief criticisms should come from within the fraternities, and the praise from without, gives food for thought.

The Grand Council of Kappa Alpha Theta wishes to express sincerest appreciation of the work of those in charge of the recent edition of the Catalogue, and to thank Miss Stillman and her committee for what must have seemed unlimited labor, Miss Walker for her fine work, all the chapters and individual Thetas who helped. In every way the result is a great source of pride to the fraternity, and the volume is one of inestimable usefulness.

ANNA HARRISON.

We thank the many alumnæ who have sent us corrections for the catalogue, and again urge that all of you look carefully for mistakes and send us the corrections. Please state the chapter and initiation number of the member whose address you are giving. These corrections should not be sent merely as *personals* but should be marked for the catalogue. We especially ask that addresses marked (?) in the catalogue be verified. Please find, so far as possible, correct addresses before notifying us. These corrections will all be published in the May issue, on pages of such size that they may be inserted conveniently in the catalogues.

Chapter secretaries, both alumnæ and active, will please put the name, college address, and home address of the chapter editor for 1909-1910 on the May reports sent to the editor. The secretaries of the active chapters will please send to the editor on or before April 5 a complete list of the initiates of 1908-1909 with name, initiation number and home address of each.

When the chapter officers for 1909-1910 are elected, the retiring editor is requested to give the directions sent out in November, to the new editor. Judging from some of the material sent in, we must believe that all editors have not received those instructions. A 400-word article is due with *each* chapter letter. Chapters that have not complied with this regulation must see to it that their quota of material due, is all in the hands of the editor on or before April 5. These articles should be of general interest on educational or fraternity subjects. Subjects of local interest, new buildings, local customs, etc., should be treated in the chapter letters. They are needed there. Do not try to take every item of interest out of the chapter letter so as to make an "article" out of it.

A CORRECTION.

In the January Journal the statement was made that Phi Beta Kappa had not been established at Syracuse. This is an error. Phi Beta Kappa granted a charter to Syracuse September 11, 1895, and the chapter was organized in December, 1895. Appointments were made extending back to the founding of the university.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COLLEGE PAN-HELLENIC ASSOCIATION PLEASE NOTICE.

Will the President of each college Pan-Hellenic please instruct the Secretary of the same to send to the Secretary of the National Pan-Hellenic, L. P. Green, 15 East Ave., Ithaca, N. Y., a copy of your Pan-Hellenic contract for the college year 1909-10; also a copy of your Pan-Hellenic constitution and the name of the Pan-Hellenic Secretary for the next college year? These documents are needed in the work of the National conference. Your co-operation in

sending these, without the receipt of a letter direct, will be greatly appreciated.

The Grand Council of Kappa Alpha Theta announces the resignation of Pi Chapter at Albion College, Albion, Michigan, on the eighteenth of November, nineteen hundred and eight.

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING OF ALUMNÆ CHAPTERS.

Mu Alumnæ:

2 P. M. Second Saturday of each month from September to May inclusive, at homes of members.

Chairman of Membership Committee, Mary Helen Cross,
1980 E. 116th St.

Delta Alumnæ:

Third Saturday in each month at 11:30 in northeast corner of Field's Tea Room.

Gamma Alumnæ:

First Saturday in the month from November to April inclusive, at the Hotel Martha Washington, 29 East Twenty-Ninth St., New York City, at 11:30 o'clock. The chapter cordially welcomes any Kappa Alpha Theta in or about New York. There is also a Help Committee, the object of which is to be of service in any possible way to Kappa Alpha Thetas in the vicinity.

Chairman of the Help Committee is Miss Florence Durstine, 67 Riverside Drive, New York City.

Beta Alumnæ:

Luncheon at Donaldson's Tea Room, Minneapolis, on the first Saturday in each month.

Zeta Alumnæ:

Meetings at homes of members. Thetas who are accessible please notify Mrs. L. R. Naftzger, 1821 North Delaware St., Indianapolis.

Iota Alumnæ:

Iota Alumnæ meetings are held regularly from October to June at the homes of members. Visitors to California

are invited to send their names and addresses to Miss Sue Barnwell, 954 South Union Ave., Los Angeles, in order that the hospitality of the chapter may be extended to them.

Xi Alumnæ:

Meetings the last Saturday of every month at homes of members. Thetas in the vicinity will please notify Mrs. Fred B. Rose, 4404 Harrison St., Kansas City, Mo.

Omicron Alumnæ meeting the last Saturday in each month at houses of members.

The following notices of Journals on hand for distribution or needed to complete files have been received.

List of Journals *needed*—All volumes up to Vol. IV, No. 4.

Vol. V.....Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4	Vol. XI.....Nos. 2, 3 and 4
Vol. VI.....Nos. 1, 2 and 3	Vol. XII.....Nos. 1, 2, and 3
Vol. VII.....Nos. 3 and 4	Vol. XIII.....No. 4
Vol. IX.....Nos. 1 and 4	Vol. XIV.....Nos. 3 and 4
Vol. X.....Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4	Vol. XV.....Nos. 1, 3 and 4

List of Journals to offer:

4 copies Vol. XIII..... No. 1	2 copies Vol. XIX..... No. 3
4 copies Vol. XIII..... No. 2	2 copies Vol. XIX..... No. 4
1 copy Vol. XIII..... No. 3	3 copies Vol. XVIII..... No. 2
2 copies Vol. XVII..... No. 1	1 copy Vol. XVIII..... No. 3
2 copies Vol. XVI..... No. 2	4 copies Vol. XX..... No. 1
1 copy Vol. XVI..... No. 4	6 copies Vol. XX..... No. 2
1 copy Vol. XVII..... No. 2	3 copies Vol. XX..... No. 4
1 copy Vol. XVII..... No. 3	4 copies Vol. XX..... No. 3
2 copies Vol. XVII..... No. 4	5 copies Vol. XXI..... No. 3
1 copy Vol. XVIII..... No. 1	5 copies Vol. XXI..... No. 2
3 copies Vol. XIX..... No. 1	2 copies Vol. XXI..... No. 4
4 copies Vol. XIX..... No. 2	11 copies Vol. XV..... No. 2

GRACE CROMER,

Archive Keeper, Beta Chapter.

Numbers of Journal needed by Alpha Iota:

Vol. I.....Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4	Vol. IX.....I, 3 and 4
Vol. II.....Nos. 1, 2 and 3	Vol. X.....Nos. 1, 2 and 3
Vol. III.....Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4	Vol. XI.....Nos. 2 and 3
Vol. IV.....Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4	Vol. XIII.....Nos. 1 and 4
Vol. V.....Nos. 1, 2 and 3	Vol. XIV.....Nos. 3 and 4
Vol. VI.....Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4	Vol. XV.....Nos. 3 and 4
Vol. VII.....Nos. 2 and 3	

Journals in Beta Alumnae for distribution:

Vol. VIII.....Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4	Vol. XIV.....No. 3
Vol. IX.....Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4	Vol. XVI.....Nos. 2 and 3
Vol. X.....Nos. 1 and 2	Vol. XVII.....Nos. 3 and 4
Vol. XI.....No. 3	Vol. XIX.....Nos. 2 and 3
Vol. XII.....No. 1	Vol. XX.....Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4
Vol. XIII.....Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4	

CHAPTER LETTERS

The editor regrets that on account of lack of space no chapter letters will appear in this issue. Chapter correspondents are requested to send the letter for the May number by April 5 as usual. Items of interest in the March letters will be printed with the May letters.

This omission was made necessary by the printing of the valuable article on Chapter Houses and the accompanying symposium. From no other department of the Journal could twenty-eight pages be omitted.

ALUMNAE CHAPTER LETTERS

DELTA ALUMNAE—CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Delta Alumnae repeated this year her very successful experiment of last year—the holding of a special meeting and luncheon on the third Saturday in January to commemorate Founders' Day. On January 16 fifty-one 'Thetas, representing eighteen different chapters, set down to a banquet at the Stratford Hotel.

The guests were seated at one large table formed in the shape of a hollow rectangle. The girls numbered around the table, beginning with the toastmistress, and after each course those who had even numbers shifted their positions. This arrangement helped to make people acquainted, and

made the luncheon more informal that it otherwise would have seemed.

The husband of one of our members was good enough to secure a piano for our use during the afternoon, so we renewed our youth and enthusiasm of active chapter days by singing Theta songs.

At the close of the luncheon Miss Wadsworth, the toast-mistress, rose to call the roll of chapters. As each chapter was called her representatives stood up, and in several cases there were from five to ten women from a single chapter. Miss Keyes, Miss Votey, and Miss Potter were introduced in turn, and they spoke on *The Fraternity from Three Points of View*. Miss Keyes treated the subject from the viewpoint of the undergraduate, Miss Votey from that of the alumnæ, and Miss Potter from that of the faculty. Mrs. Matzinger made an earnest appeal for the support of the scholarship fund. She had prepared unique kites made of black cardboard, on which were pasted gold seals. The seals were so placed as to represent the emblems on the pin. They were only partly pasted on, and Mrs. Matzinger suggested that each woman present put a dime under each seal and fasten it securely.

Mrs. Matzinger was followed by Mrs. Whittier, the president of Delta Alumnæ, who spoke very pleasingly on Theta's Broader Sympathies. We were fortunate in having with us Miss Walker, our worthy Journal editor. She spoke briefly of her work, and she also read from a historical number of the Journal an account of the development of Delta Alumnæ chapter. The secretary read a telegram of greeting from Miss Harrison, a letter from Mrs. Hannah V. Shaw, and several other messages.

After the speakers had finished, Mrs. Myra Post Cady, who came to our party as a surprise to us all, rose and proposed a toast to our founders. Then the loving cup went around the table, this little ceremony concluding the program.

ANNA ELIZABETH DRUMMOND, *Secretary*.

MU ALUMNAE—CLEVELAND, OHIO

Winter is upon us once more, and the sound of the snow shovel is heard in the land. Notwithstanding zero weather and poor car service, our meetings this year have been well attended.

The purpose of our Alumnae Chapter has often been discussed in our meetings. At times we have felt that we should stand for something more definite. As there is no active chapter in, or near, Cleveland, we lack that personal relation which should exist between active and alumnae chapters. We have finally reached the conclusion that our present arrangements are best suited to our needs.

We meet on the second Saturday of each month at the home of a member. Each hostess entertains as she sees fit. Sometimes we have simply a business meeting, when the policy of the fraternity is discussed; sometimes a luncheon, a guessing contest or a discussion of current topics. In the social hour which follows, we have better opportunity to become acquainted than when we had our formal meetings, with papers, debates, etc. It is a relaxation to most of us who have our literary clubs and charity work elsewhere.

The two subjects of most interest at present are; First; the Convention to be held so near us at Chicago next summer, which many of us hope to attend. Second; our Founders' Day celebration. Our Secretary, Miss Cross, has offered us the hospitality of her home. We are planning a luncheon, a toast to our founders and a grand good time in general.

Since the receipt of the catalogue, we have discovered there are several Thetas here, of whom we knew nothing, but hope they will be able to meet us in the future. It is almost impossible to locate the scattered Thetas who do not see the Journal, and consequently, do not know of an alumnae chapter in the city in which they live. Surely the new catalogue, in all its completeness, is a boon to alumnae chapters.

We are fortunate in having three new members this

year; Mrs. Bachman (Eta), Mrs. Chandler (Chi), Mrs. Horn (Epsilon).

Mu Alumnæ lost two of her best beloved members last summer. In June Louise Rust, (Delta) was married to Mr. Fred Foss, Professor of Civil Engineering at Carnegie School of Technology, Pittsburg. Mrs. Foss, who served two years as President of Mu Alumnæ, will prove a great acquisition to Kappa Alumnæ.

In the death of Mary Sifton Pepper, Mu Alumnæ, as well as the community at large, sustained a severe loss. Miss Pepper was a scholar of rare attainments, a translator and writer of note. Her book "Maids and Matrons of New France" is an authority on early Canadian history.

During her long residence in Europe, she assisted her father in his duties as Consul at Milan, Italy. She was associate editor of "The Italian News" and a contributor to many magazines. Beloved for her loyalty of friendship, she was admired for her brilliant attainments. Her loss has left a vacancy in Mu Alumnæ which can never be filled.

We hope that all Thetas coming to Cleveland will notify the Chairman of our Membership Committee, Miss Mary Helen Cross, 1980 East 116th St.

With best wishes to our sister chapters for a prosperous year,
LILLIAN GATCH RANDALL.

PI ALUMNÆ—TOPEKA, KANSAS.

We feel that you will gladly give us space in the Journal and extend to us a right royal welcome too, as we have the honor of introducing ourselves as a thoroughly organized alumnæ chapter, with a membership of about twenty members. As you know the Grand President of Kappa Alpha Theta is a resident of Topeka, we frankly acknowledge that the zeal and enthusiasm of Miss Harrison has done much to make a permanent organization possible.

Our first formal meeting was held and the charter received January 23.

The following week eight members went to Lawrence to attend Founders' Day Banquet when heretofore only

three or four have gone. For the present we have adopted the plan of holding our regular meeting the second Saturday of every other month during the year. A noon luncheon will be given followed by a business session.

As the chapter grows and develops we hope to undertake great things and we expect to renew our old college spirit by making our chapter a center of strength for our members and for the stranger Thetas that may come to us as the years go by.

Our officers for the coming year are: President, Mrs. Edith Bowen; Vice-President, Miss Winnifred Everingham; Treasurer, Mrs. Fannie Thompson; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Mary Barkley; Editor, Mrs. Jessie Wright Whitcomb.

CORA PIERSON HOPKINS.

RHO ALUMNÆ—DENVER, COLORADO.

The granting of an alumnæ chapter to the Denver alumnæ of Kappa Alpha Theta has made us all feel as if we were again an active part of our fraternity. The remoteness of Colorado from all active Theta life has made it all the more desirable to have an alumnæ chapter here, and so we are proud to take our place as Rho Alumnæ.

There is no dearth of fraternity life in Colorado, as at Colorado College, the State University, and Denver University there are chapters of several of the men's and women's national fraternities. In Denver the Women's Pan-Hellenic Association, organized last spring, has brought the hundred and fifty fraternity women of Denver together. But this has not been the same as having an alumnæ or active chapter of our own fraternity.

It is early yet to state our plan of meetings, in regard either to place or time, but by the next letter we hope to be able to announce it. We hope that no Theta will come to Denver, or even to Colorado without letting Rho Alumnæ know of her arrival, as we wish to draw into our chapter all the Thetas who live near us.

Greetings to all Kappa Alpha Thetas, both active and alumnæ, particularly to the new Alpha Mu Chapter.

MARRIAGES

Sigma

Married, August 26, 1908, at Windsor, Ontario, Daisy Cramp-ton, A.B. '04, to Mr. Justus Vanston. Address, 51 Eppirt St., East Orange, N. J.

Alpha Delta

Married, December 22, 1908, at Spartanburg, South Carolina, Lois Hill, 1902-1905, to Mathew Lyle Spencer, K. A. Address, Spartanburg, S. C.

Alpha Epsilon

Married, September 14, 1908, Eunice Mildram Clark, ex-'10, to Mr. Chester Campbell Waters, A.M., Brown, 1906. Address, "The Boulders," South Swansea, Mass.

Married, September 16, 1908, Olive Bowers Eddy, Ph.B. 1905, to Mr. Samuel Edward Eaton of New York.

Married, December 16, 1908, Ida Maude Warren, Ph.B., 1902, to Mr. Olney Warren Wilmarth.

Alpha Kappa

Married, January 27, 1909, at seven o'clock, at home, Cora Mar-guerite Stephens, 1906-1908, to Mr. Nils Anderson.

Gamma

Married, September 24, '08, at her home, Edinburg, Indiana, Minnie Belle Cutsinger to Mr. Howard Haydn Mutz, Beta Theta Pi, Indiana '07. Address, Edinburg, Indiana.

Epsilon

Married, August, 1908, Jane Corbett, '07, to Mr. John Joheen, Beta Theta Pi. Address, Franklin, Ind.

Married, December 30, 1908, at her home in Kenton, Ohio, Hazel Emery, ex-'07, to Mr. Ernest Skeel. Address, Seattle, Wash.

Tau

Married, February 16, 1909, at Redlands, Calif., Mabel Curren, ex-'06, to Doctor Inslee Blair Greene of Seattle, Wash.

Upsilon

Married, December 24, 1908, Ruth Leonard, '04, to Hazelton Donaldson.

Married, December 2, 1908, Ruth Haynes, '05, to Leslie Carpenter, Chi Psi.

Alpha Theta

Married, October 27, 1908, Hazel Ransom, ex-'06, to Mr. Henry Sayre Cabell. Address, McAlister, Okla.

Married, December 23, 1908, Jenness Frieze, ex-'08, to Mr. James Pickney Gough.

Married, January 17, '09, Jean Bossum, '05, to Mr. Philip Shaner of El Paso, Texas.

Phi

Married, December 23, 1908, in San Antonio, Texas, Ella Russ, '08, to Mr. George Heyser Light. Address, 801 South St., Lafayette, Ind.

BIRTHS

Iota

Born, December, 1908, a son, Charles Thorne, Jr., to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Thorne Van Winkle (Elva Young), Silverton, Colo.

Sigma

Born, December 23, 1908, a son, to Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Dickson (Evelyn Ward, B.A. 1905).

Chi

Born, December 22, 1908, to Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Simmons, at Waverly, N. Y., a daughter. Mrs. Simmons was Lavantia Russell, 1900-'01.

Born, September 15, 1908, a son, to Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Chandler (Beulah Throop, Ph.B. 1906), Cleveland, Ohio.

Born, August 23, 1908, a son, Charles Ferdinand, to Mr. and Mrs. Edwin L. Iglehart (Luella Miller, B.M. 1906), Tokyo, Japan.

Born, November 8, 1908, a son, Arthur Baird, to Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe M. Hersey (Grace N. Baird, A.B. 1904), Tientsin, China.

Alpha Delta

Born, February 23, 1908, a daughter, Marion Dibert, to Mr. and Mrs. Geo. O. Suppes (Marion Dibert), Johnstown, Pa.

Born, October 17, 1908, a son, Edgar, to Mr. and Mrs. Edgar A. Taylor (Margaret H. L. Hukill), Buffalo, N. Y.

Alpha Epsilon

Born, September 10, 1908, a daughter, Frances, to Mr. and Mrs. Prince C. Tirrell (Mary Wilbur, 1899). Address, South Weymouth, Mass.

Alpha Zeta

Born, January 28, a son, to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Brown (Mary Warren Moën, A.B. 1904).

Eta

Born, December 23, 1908, a daughter, Marion Frances, to Mr. and Mrs. William Rose (Jessie Obetz, 1906-'07).

Mu

Born, November, 1908, a daughter, to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McQuiston (Margaret McLaughlin). Address, Palmyra, Ohio.

Alpha Eta

Born, November, 1908, to Dr. H. Z. Kip and wife (Nona Murrell), a son, William Van Houten Kip.

Psi

A son was born in December to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sherman (Alice Watson).

Upsilon

Born, January 4, 1909, a daughter, Alice Hermion, to Mr. and Mrs. George S. Wheaton (Alice Jackson, B.A., 1903). Address, 61 N. Lyndale Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Phi

Born, December, 1908, a son, John Clover, to Mr. and Mrs. Valentine Wachtel, Jr. (Katharine Clover, 1904-'06). Address, La Salle and 30th Sts., Los Angeles, Calif.

Born, December, 1908, a daughter, to Mr. and Mrs. Forest Fisher (Edith Barnheisel, A.B. 1899). Address, Fenton Building, Portland, Ore.

Born, January 19, 1909, a son, to Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Swayles (Mary Morton, 1901-1903). Address, Fort Bragg, Calif.

Alpha Lambda

Born, February 1, 1909, a daughter, to Mr. and Mrs. Curtiss (Grace Ridgway). Address, Belmont Ave., Seattle, Wash.

PERSONALS

Sigma

The engagement is announced of Mabel Millman, B.A. '07, to Clarence Hincks, M.D. '07, Psi Delta Psi.

Berta Bastedo, '07, is now living in Ottawa. Her address is 190 Cooper St., Ottawa, Ontario.

Hazel Kemp, ex-'10, has gone to Ottawa for the Opening and the Drawing room.

Norah Thomson, B.A. '04, was visiting in Toronto this last month and was with us at our initiation.

Margaret Anderson, '07, who is the Dominion Secretary for the Young Women's Christian Association, is at present visiting in the Maritime Provinces.

A Chi alumnae reunion was held in November at the home of Mrs. George M. Van Slyke (Lucille Baldwin, 1902) in Brooklyn for the Chi women in the vicinity of New York. We felt as if we accomplished something quite remarkable for we had eighteen women present who came from all sorts of distances. Some of the "girls" had not seen a Theta in over ten years. We are planning to have a spring and fall meeting in the future.

Mrs. Frederick Nusbickel of Los Angeles (Maisa Parker, 1900-'03), spent the winter months visiting in New York. Her husband and little son Frederick Jr., accompanied her.

The engagement is announced of Edith W. Ackerman, A.B. '08, Lawrence, Mass., to Mr. S. F. Dawson, Jr., Milton, N. H.

Chi

The engagement is announced of Blanch Merritt, Ph.B. '08, Buffalo, N. Y., to Mr. Frank Baker, Syracuse, '06, Phi Kappa Psi.

The engagement is announced of May Baker, Ph.B., '03, Mexico, N. Y., to Mr. W. H. Hurd, White Plains, N. Y.

Ethel Northrup, '10, has been obliged to discontinue college work on account of ill health. She has gone to Castile Sanitarium for a complete rest.

Alice Simons, '11, has returned to college after a long illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Pelton (Maud Millington, ex-'05), are spending the winter in California.

Mrs. Giles H. Stilwell (Mabel Parker, A.B. 1900), has returned from a trip to Washington, D. C.

Martha Allen, Ph.B., '08, has accepted a position as teacher of

English in Troy High School to succeed her sister, Georgia M. Allen, Ph.B., '03, who has accepted a position in Newark, N. J.

Alpha Delta

In December we were glad to have with us Ethel Shays Griffing, A.B., 1901, of Riverhead, N. Y.

Edith Sprowles, A.B. 1907, of Frankford, Pa., stopped for Senior Dramatics on her way to Lois Hill's wedding at Spartanburg, S. C.

Alpha Epsilon

Laura R. Sherman, A.B., 1906, has been appointed to a position in the classified High School, Providence.

Katherine F. Littlefield, A.B., 1902, is teaching Latin, Greek, and Music at Miss Kimbal's School for Girls, Worcester, Mass.

Ruth L. Foster, A.B. 1908, is teaching at the Newport Academy, Newport, Vermont.

Caroline B. Phillips, A.B. 1908, is a student worker in the Domestic Reform League of the Women's Educational and Industrial Union, Boston, Mass.

Alpha Kappa

Among those who have visited us lately are Mrs. Baker, Miss Braman, Mrs. Van Slyke and Miss Buck, from Chi; Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Shaw, Miss Keip, from Iota; Mrs. Imperatori, from Alpha Delta, and Mrs. Fradenburg, from Mu.

Alpha

Mary Dyer Lemon, '10, was forced to leave college for the term because of ill health.

Mrs. John Sheets (Constance Williamson), visited relatives and Thetas January 23.

Charlotte Tribolet, A.B. '00, of Bluffton, Ind., and Katheryne Barton, A.B. '08, of Milroy, Ind., were visitors at the chapter house on January 30. to February 2.

Julia Preston, '09, will be married on February 16, to Mr. Forest Minch, of Chalmers, Ind.

Eleven active girls attended the annual Founder's Day luncheon at Indianapolis.

Gamma

The engagement of Louise Brown, 5087 E. Washington St., Indianapolis, Ind., and John Atherton, Delta Tau Delta, Butler, '00, has been announced. They will be married February 23.

Epsilon

The engagement is announced of Mary Sanborn, '05, to Rev. H. D. Allen, Phi Gamma Delta. Mr. Allen is pastor of the Baptist church of Wooster, Ohio.

Helen Anderson, '08, is teaching in the Orrville High School.

Eta

Anna Drummond, '03, visited Mrs. George C. Thorpe (Cora Wells, A.B. '03), in New York City during the Christmas holidays. Both Mrs. Thorpe and her husband are studying at Columbia University. Address, 1925 Seventh Ave., New York City.

Charlotte Greist, ex-'03, is teaching voice in New York City. Address, 15 West 67th St., New York City.

Maud Philips, A.B. '01, is teaching this winter at Redlands, Calif. Her mother is with her. The address is 511 Cajou St.

Mabel Mason, 1909, has been elected to membership in Stylus, the honorary rhetoric society.

Elfrieda Weitz, 1910, is to take the rôle of "Klärchen" in *Egmont*, which is to be presented in the near future, by the Deutsche Verein.

Leona Belser, A.B. 1908, came to Ann Arbor in February, to attend the J-Hop.

Margaret Dresser, A.B. 1907, is teaching in a private school in Detroit.

Charlotte Walker, A.B. 1900, Janet Goudie, A.B. 1904, Harriet Harrington Maynard, 1904, and Esther Harmon, A.B. 1906, have been elected members of the Michigan Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.

Mu

In December we had with us at several of our chapter meetings Mrs. Adelbert Fradenburg (Juliana Edson) of Brooklyn, New York.

Ethel Canfield, A.B. 1906, is teaching in Cambridge Springs, Pa.

Florence Grauel, A.B. 1908, has been forced to resign her position in Kane on account of ill health.

Nulu Neale, A.B. 1908, and Effie Milliren, A.B. 1906, are teaching in Reynoldsville, Pa.

Mu mourns with Ruth Townley the death of her mother which occurred last December.

Alpha Gamma

Florence Durstine, from New York, paid a short visit to Anne Hunter and a spread was given in her honor.

Alice Thacker visited Mrs. James Prendergast (Mignon Poste) at Liberty, Ohio.

Jane Huntington and Florence Huston spent several days with Mrs. Adolph Theobald (Edith Jackson) at Galion, Ohio.

Alpha Eta

Louise Bang and Elise Handly, who have been teaching at Jackson, Tenn., have come home to spend the rest of the winter. Elise's father died in January.

Dr. and Mrs. H. Z. Kip (Nora Murrell) have come back to Nashville for the winter, and are to be found at 2007 West Broad street.

Delta

Pearl Higginbotham Collins, '05, of Arcola, and Hope Her-
rick, '08, of Farmer City, have been visitors lately at the chapter house.

Mary Jane Case, ex-'10, is leaving school for Seattle, Wash-
ington, next semester.

Kappa

The engagement of Anna Harrison to Mr. Lewis F. Nelson is announced. The marriage will take place in April.

Eleanor Blakey, '08, Rebecca Moody, '08, Helen Alder, '06, and Mary Gleed, '07, were back for the party given January 29.

Misses Gladyce Trigg, Lula Potter and Mildred James of Kan-
sas City, Mo., and Miss Alice Brown of Atchison, Kansas, were
our guests for the party of January 29.

Miss Bertha Bowen, '07, was here attending the Founder's
Day banquet.

Rho

The marriage of Mary Warren Morgan, '07, to George Edward
Proudfit, Sigma Chi, took place February 10.

Georgia Field, '07, returned January 28 from an eight-months
trip to Europe.

Ruth Wilson, A.B. 1900, is in Pasadena, Calif., for the winter,
at 140 Worcester Place.

Jessica Morgan, A.B. 1901, is in Los Angeles, 600 West Adams
street.

Psi

Mrs. Evan E. Young (Dawn Waite, '05), has returned from Turkey, and will spend a few months at her home in Belvidere, Ill. Mr. Young will be here the latter part of March and will remain during his two months' leave of absence. After which Mr. and Mrs. Young will return to their home at Salonika, Turkey.

Upsilon

Mrs. George C. Sikes (Madeline Wallin, B.L. 1892), is president of the Chicago Branch of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae. Address, 400 So. Central Austin Sta., Chicago.

Eleanor Skinner Kimball has gone south for the winter with her two sons.

Florence Parker is teaching at Alexandria, Minn.

Mary How is teaching in St. Paul, Minn.

Elizabeth Fisher-Barker has gone to Eugene, Oregon, where Mr. Barker is teaching in the School of Mines.

The out-of-town guests at the annual banquet were Mrs. Bagley, Tau, and Mrs. Hoyt of Duluth, Margaret Moore Spicer of Willmar and Lois Dann, Alpha Gamma, of South St. Paul. The following chapters were represented at this gathering: Chi, Alpha Gamma, Delta, Iota, Tau and Upsilon.

Alice Turner, Kappa, who attended college here for a short time, has made her home in Seattle, Wash.

Several Rho girls visited us at the time of the Nebraska-Minnesota football game.

Edna Broom, 1903-'05, is spending the winter in Long Beach, Calif. Her address is "The Munholland," Ocean Ave., Long Beach.

Gertrude Hopes, Duluth, visited us in November and Perrie Jones visited us just before the holidays.

Rosamond Leland is going to visit in Grand Forks, N. D., the latter part of February.

Alpha Theta

Helen Curtis, ex-'08, is teaching in the Paris High School.

Sherliereed Streeter, '08, who is teaching in Bruceville, paid a visit to the chapter in January.

Willie Davis, ex-'05, is spending the winter at her home in Keagan, Texas.

Lucy Gibbs, ex-'07, visited the chapter in January.

Hallet McPhail, ex-'07, has returned from a stay in Chicago, Ill., much improved in health, and is at her home in Marshall, Tex.

Lucy Whitney, ex-'07, who has been in Washington for a year, is expected home in April.

Grace Nash, ex-'08, is teaching in Mulholland's School in San Antonio. She expects to return to college in the spring term and take her degree.

Mrs. James P. Gough (Jenness Frieze, ex-'08), is living in Chicago.

Anna Simonds, '07, is teaching in Lampasas.

Margaret Spence, pledged '08, who has been in Mexico since last June, has returned to her home in San Angelo.

Laura Lehman, ex-'08, and Claire Leverton, ex-'08, are both teaching in Houston.

Ethel Rather, '02, is spending the winter in Austin for the purpose of publishing her doctor's thesis. Miss Rather took a Ph.D. at Yale last June, in history.

Mrs. Philip Shaver (Jeanne Borroum, '05), is living in El Paso, Texas.

Gretchen Rochs Goldschmidt, '03, with her baby daughter visited the chapter at Thanksgiving.

Alpha Iota

Meta Gruner, 1907-08, has returned to the university this term.

Phi

Jean Margaret Mead, 1905-1907, has taken out a semester's leave and is at her home in Kansas City, Missouri.

Helen Munroe, '10, has registered again after a semester of teaching.

The engagement has been announced of Clara Stevenson, '04, to Ensign F. L. Reichmuth, U. S. N.

Alberta Hanna, '10, is recovering from a severe illness and we hope to have her back with us again in the fall semester.

Karoline Hammond, '08, is teaching in the San Diego High School.

Georgiana Lyman, '07, is studying music in Chicago.

Mary Baker, '08, graduated from the Y. W. C. A. Training School in Los Angeles, in December, 1908.

Genevieve Chambers, '03, has been a recent guest at the chapter house.

Omega

Ruth Fuller, 1911 University of Minnesota, has affiliated with Omega.

Cornelia Stratton Parker, '07, has moved to Cambridge where for two years Mr. Parker will be connected with the Economics Department at Harvard.

Lula Lindley ,ex-'1910, has been visiting Omega from her home in Sacramento; and Helen Wright, '07, and Mary Gilbert, '06, were Omega's guests during the birthday celebration.

Alpha Lambda

Robin McKinley, of the class of 1911, is spending the spring months traveling in California. She will re-enter college next fall.

Nellie Mae Dunlap, A.B. 1908, is teaching music in Seattle. Address, 2622 Franklin Ave., Seattle, Wash.

Mellie Alexander, A.B. 1908, is spending the winter at home in Seattle. Address, Box 1175, Seattle, Wash.

Alpha Lambda is unusually fortunate in having as chaperone this year Lillian V. Johnson of Delta, who is at the head of the Department of Modern Languages in the Lincoln High School of Seattle. It has been a constant source of inspiration to have a Theta in this position.

NEWS FROM THE COLLEGE WORLD

From many parts of the country comes the news of the resignation of college presidents who have long been leaders in guiding American education. Most prominent among these are President Charles W. Eliot of Harvard University and President James B. Angell of the University of Michigan.

Dr. Eliot, one of the foremost authorities in America on higher education, has presented his resignation to the authorities of Harvard University. Dr. Eliot will be long remembered as the author of the so-called elective system of college education.

Dr. Angell has been President of the University of Michigan for 37 years, during which time the attendance at the university has increased from 1000 students to over 5000. Under the guidance of Dr. Angell, Michigan has been the foremost state university, and the model for many of the others.

Dr. Angell has been offered the title of Chancellor of the University by the regents. He will retain the President's house upon the campus, and a salary of \$4000 a year. His resignation as President will take effect in June, 1909.

Dr. David F. Houston, who has been since 1905 the President of the University of Texas, has recently been elected Chancellor of Washington University, at St. Louis, Mo.

Dr. Eugene Allen Noble was installed as President of the Woman's College of Baltimore, February 2, 1909.

Francis J. McConnell, D.D., is to be inaugurated March 10 as President of De Pauw University.

Thomas Arkle Clark, Dean of Undergraduates of the University of Illinois, is to be a member of Leland Stanford Jr. faculty in 1909-1910.

Albert Ross Hill has just been inaugurated as President of the University of Missouri.

The legislative board of visitors of the University of Missouri in its report to the governor of the needs of the university, recommended that the legislature appropriate \$475,000 for new buildings. Of this amount, the board recommended that \$250,000 be spent for a fireproof library building, \$100,000 for a physics building, \$75,000 for a chemistry building and \$50,000 for a women's gymnasium.—*Science*, Jan. 29, '09.

Recently established chapters are as follows: Pi Beta Phi at Toronto University; Delta Delta Delta at Transylvania College, Lexington, Ky., and at Leland Stanford Jr.; Sigma Kappa at Brown University; Alpha Delta Phi at Leland Stanford; Delta Upsilon, re-established at Miami; Gamma Phi Beta at the University of Oregon.

The first woman Rhodes scholar has arrived in London in connection with the scheme for founding scholarships for women on the lines of the scholarships for men founded by Cecil Rhodes.

The scheme was formulated in 1905 by Mme. Thayer, then chairman of the education committee of the Society of American Women in London, who is devoting her life to carrying out its development.

Miss Clara Howard, the scholar in question, who was entered for a year of postgraduate study at Girton, is from Columbia University, and her scholarship was raised by the Society of American Women in London, the nucleus being subscribed by the education committee during Mme. Thayer's chairmanship.

Miss Howard arrives among us with a brilliant record. The women Rhodes scholars will in future be chosen by competitive examinations. There was hardly time for this, however, in this case, and thus Miss Howard was chosen on the recommendation of Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, the wife of the American Ambassador in

London, and of Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia University.—*The Lady's Pictorial*; quoted by the *Arrow*.

The Minnesota faculty has organized a new fraternity, Lambda Alpha Psi. It is based on scholarship.—*The Record*.

By the will of the late Col. Vilas, his entire fortune is bequeathed to the University of Wisconsin. It does not become available, however, until it has accumulated to the sum of \$30,000,000. It amounts at present, it is estimated, to about \$3,000,000.

The Western University of Pennsylvania has changed its name, and will be known hereafter as the University of Pittsburgh.—*Sigma Chi Quarterly*.

A novelty in the shape of "co-operative courses" has been established at the University of Cincinnati. The plan contemplates the grouping of students in pairs, and while one of each pair is attending classes, the other is employed at some factory engaged in the practical work of the profession he is to follow. The next week the positions of the "pairs" are reversed. The experiment will be watched with much interest.—*Sigma Chi Quarterly*.

The election of William H. Taft will put into the White House for the second time a member of Psi Upsilon. The previous incumbent, Chester A. Arthur, however, was not elected, but succeeded on the death of Garfield. Beginning with Garfield, every occupant of the president's chair has claimed affiliation with a Greek-letter fraternity, although some were merely honorary members. Garfield was a member of Delta Upsilon, Cleveland was an honorary Sigma Chi, Harrison was a member of Phi Delta Theta, McKinley was an honorary Sigma Alpha Epsilon, while Roosevelt is claimed by both Alpha Delta Phi and Delta Kappa Epsilon. He was a member of the Dickey club at Harvard while it still was nominally a chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon, and was also a member of Alpha Delta Phi at the same institution, this chapter also having subsequently had its charter withdrawn.—*Phi Gamma Delta*.

Sigma Phi has never had a President, and will soon have its first Vice-President. During the last decade, however, it has had a member high in the councils of the nation—Elihu Root, first as Secretary of War under President McKinley, and then as Secretary of State under President Roosevelt.—*Caduceus*.

At the annual banquet of the Sigma Nu fraternity in Chicago on January 1 a resolution was adopted calling for a Pan-Hellenic conference for the purpose of organizing all Greek-letter societies in the United States into a Grand Council.—*Shield*.

Chi Omega has a loving-cup which is to be passed from chap-

ter to chapter according to merit. The first award is to be made at the meeting of the council next summer. The winning chapter will have possession of the cup at least a year.

The Regents of the University of Minnesota are asking the state legislature for a woman's dormitory and for large appropriations for the completion of purchase of land for the greater campus. Plans have already been adopted for a new men's building for which nearly enough money has been subscribed. By the absorption of the Hamline College medical department with that of the state university's large medical college, the final step in the unification of medical education in Minnesota is completed.

This year is also marked by the appearance of an unusual number of books by professors and alumni, the invention by Professor Zeleng of a grain moisture tester, the establishment of Dutch treat luncheons by the alumni in Minneapolis, and the election of a track coach (Dr. Grant of Harvard), to give full time to the work.

Ohio State University has received a gift of \$10,000 from Mr. Robert T. Scott, Cadiz, the income to be used for the aid of poor students.

The University of Michigan has just opened the largest and best equipped dental building in America. A \$300,000 memorial building and a new chemistry building are in course of construction.

The University of Michigan will offer a course in library methods during the summer session of 1909. A course in landscape gardening has been established in connection with the architectural and botanical departments. At the head of this new department is Ossian C. Simonds, '78 Eng.

The Trustees of Columbia University have appointed Dr. William G. MacCallum, Professor of Pathological Physiology in the Johns Hopkins University, to be Professor of Pathology at Columbia in succession to Dr. T. Mitchell Prudden, who will retire from active service on July 1 next.

Dr. MacCallum is a graduate of the University of Toronto and of the Johns Hopkins Medical School. He is regarded as one of the very foremost investigators and teachers in the field of pathology. The list of his original contributions to pathology is not only long but remarkable, by reason of the extent of the field covered by Dr. MacCallum's studies during the past ten years.